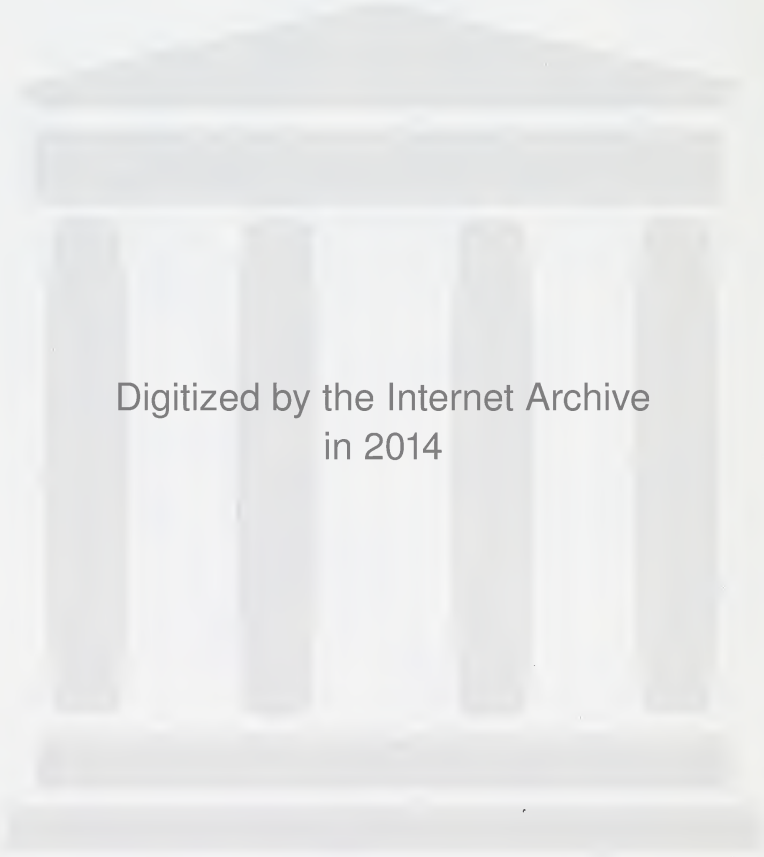
Gc
942.7201
C42r
v.37
1390763

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 00728 8928


Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/chethammiscellan37chet

Publications of the Chetham Society.

For The Year 1843–4.

VOL.

I. Travels in Holland, the United Provinces, England, Scotland, and Ireland, 1634–1635. By Sir William Brereton, Bart. Edited by Edward Hawkins, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.L.S.

II. Tracts relating to Military Proceedings in Lancashire during the Great Civil War. Edited and Illustrated from Contemporary Documents by George Ormerod, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.G.S., author of "The History of Cheshire."

III. Chester's Triumph in Honor of her Prince, as it was performed upon St. George's Day 1610, in the foresaid Citie. Reprinted from the original edition of 1610, with an Introduction and Notes.

1844–5.

IV. The Life of Adam Martindale, written by himself, and now first printed from the original manuscript in the British Museum. Edited by the Rev. Richard Parkinson, B.D., Canon of Manchester.

V. Lancashire Memorials of the Rebellion, 1715. By Samuel Hibbert Ware, M.D., F.R.S.E., &c.

VI. Potts's Discovery of Witches in the county of Lancaster. Reprinted from the original edition of 1613; with an Introduction and Notes by James Crossley, Esq.

1845–6.

VII. Iter Lancastrense, a Poem written A.D. 1636, by the Rev. Richard James. Edited by the Rev. Thomas Corser, M.A.

VIII. Notititia Cestriensis, or Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester, by Bishop Gastrell. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Vol. I.

IX. The Norris Papers. Edited by Thomas Heywood, Esq., F.S.A.

1846–7.

VOL.

X. The Coucher Book or Chartulary of Whalley Abbey. Edited by W. A Hulton, Esq. Vol. I.

XI. The Coucher Book or Chartulary of Whalley Abbey. Edited by W. A. Hulton, Esq. Vol. II.

XII. The Moore Rental. Edited by Thomas Heywood, Esq., F.S.A.

1847–8.

XIII. The Diary and Correspondence of Dr. John Worthington. Edited by James Crossley, Esq. Vol. I.

XIV. The Journal of Nicholas Assheton. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A., F.S.A.

XV. The Holy Lyfe and History of Saynt Werburge, very frutefull for all Christen People to rede. Edited by Edward Hawkins, Esq.

1848–9.

XVI. The Coucher Book or Chartulary of Whalley Abbey. Edited by W. A. Hulton, Esq. Vol. III.

XVII. Warrington in 1465. Edited by William Beamont, Esq.

XVIII. The Diary of the Rev. Henry Newcome, from September 30, 1661, to September 29, 1663. Edited by Thomas Heywood, Esq., F.S.A.

1849–50.

XIX. Notitia Cestriensis, or Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester, by Bishop Gastrell. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Vol. II. Part I.

XX. The Coucher Book or Chartulary of Whalley Abbey. Edited by W. A. Hulton, Esq. Vol. IV.

XXI. Notitia Cestriensis, or Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester, by Bishop Gastrell. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Vol. II. Part II.

1850–1.

XXII. Notitia Cestriensis, or Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester, by Bishop Gastrell. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Vol. II. Part III.

XXIII. A Golden Mirrour; conteininge certaine pithie and figurative visions prognosticating good fortune to England, &c. By Richard Robinson of Alton. Reprinted from the only known copy of the original edition of 1589 in the British Museum, with an Introduction and Notes by the Rev. Thomas Corser, M.A., F.S.A.

VOL.

XXIV. Chetham Miscellanies. Volume the First. Edited by WILLIAM LANGTON, Esq.: containing

Papers connected with the affairs of Milton and his Family. Edited by J. F. MARSH, Esq.

Epistolary Reliques of Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquaries, 1653–73. Communicated by GEORGE ORMEROD, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., and F.G.S.

Calendars of the Names of Families which entered their several Pedigrees in the successive Heraldic Visitations of the County Palatine of Lancaster. Communicated by GEORGE ORMEROD, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., and F.G.S.

A Fragment, illustrative of Sir Wm. Dugdale's Visitation of Lancashire. From a MS. in the possession of the Rev. F. R. RAINES, M.A., F.S.A.

Autobiographical Tracts of Dr. John Dee, Warden of the College of Manchester. Edited by JAMES CROSSLEY, Esq.

1851–2.

XXV. Cardinal Allen's Defence of Sir William Stanley's Surrender of Deventer. Edited by THOMAS HEYWOOD, Esq., F.S.A.

XXVI. The Autobiography of Henry Newcome, M.A. Edited by RICHARD PARKINSON, D.D., F.S.A. Vol. I.

XXVII. The Autobiography of Henry Newcome, M.A. Edited by RICHARD PARKINSON, D.D., F.S.A. Vol. II.

1852–3.

XXVIII. The Jacobite Trials at Manchester in 1694. Edited by WILLIAM BEAMONT, Esq.

XXIX. The Stanley Papers, Part I. The Earls of Derby and the Verse Writers and Poets of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. By THOMAS HEYWOOD, Esq., F.S.A.

XXX. Documents relating to the Priory of Penwortham, and other Possessions in Lancashire of the Abbey of Evesham. Edited by W. A HULTON, Esq.

1853–4.

XXXI. The Stanley Papers, Part II. The Derby Household Books, comprising an account of the Household Regulations and Expenses of Edward and Henry, third and fourth Earls of Derby; together with a Diary, containing the names of the guests who visited the latter Earl at his houses in Lancashire: by William Farrington, Esq., the Comptroller. Edited by the Rev. F. R. RAINES, M.A., F.S.A.

XXXII. The Private Journal and Literary Remains of John Byrom. Vol. I. Part I. Edited by RICHARD PARKINSON, D.D., F.S.A.

XXXIII. Christopher Towneley's Abstracts of Lancashire Inquisitions. Edited by WILLIAM LANGTON, Esq. (*In the Press.*)

1854–5.

VOL.

XXXIV. The Private Journal and Literary Remains of John Byrom. Vol. I. Part II. Edited by RICHARD PARKINSON, D.D., F.S.A.

XXXV. Stewards' House and Farm Accounts of the Shuttleworths of Smithils and Gawthorpe. Edited by JOHN HARLAND, Esq., F.S.A. (*In the Press.*)

XXXVI. The Diary and Correspondence of Dr. John Worthington. Edited by JAMES CROSSLEY, Esq., F.S.A. Vol. II. Part I.

1855–6.

XXXVII. Chetham Miscellanies. Volume the Second. Edited by WILLIAM LANGTON, Esq.: containing

The Rights and Jurisdiction of the County Palatine of Chester, the Earls Palatine, the Chamberlain, and other Officers. Edited by JOSEPH BROOKS YATES, F.A.S., G.S., and P.S.

The Scottish Field. (A Poem on the Battle of Flodden.) Edited by JOHN ROBSON, Esq.

Examynatyons towcheynge Cokeye More, Temp. Hen. VIII. in a dispute between the Lords of the Manors of Middleton and Radclyffe. Communicated by the Rev. F. R. RAINES, M.A., F.S.A.

A History of the Ancient Chapel of Denton, in Manchester Parish. By the Rev. JOHN BOOKER, M.A., F.S.A.

A Letter from John Bradshawe of Gray's Inn to Sir Peter Legh of Lyme. Edited by WM. LANGTON, Esq.

XXXVIII. Bibliographical Notices of the Church Libraries of Turton and Gorton bequeathed by Humphrey Chetham. Edited by GILBERT J. FRENCH, Esq.

MANCHESTER: PRINTED BY CHARLES SIMMS AND CO.

REMAINS

HISTORICAL & LITERARY

CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF

LANCASTER AND CHESTER,

PUBLISHED BY

THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

VOL. XXXVII.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.LVI.

COUNCIL FOR 1855–56.

JAMES CROSSLEY, ESQ., F.S.A., PRESIDENT.

REV. RICHARD PARKINSON, D.D., F.S.A., CANON OF MANCHESTER AND PRINCIPAL OF ST. BEES COLLEGE, VICE-PRESIDENT.

WILLIAM BEAMONT.

THE VERY REV. GEORGE HULL BOWERS, D.D., DEAN OF MANCHESTER.

REV. THOMAS CORSER, M.A., F.S.A.

MATTHEW DAWES, F.S.A., F.G.S.

JOHN HARLAND, F.S.A.

EDWARD HAWKINS, F.R.S., F.S.A., F.L.S.

THOMAS HEYWOOD, F.S.A.

W. A. HULTON.

REV. F. R. RAINES, M.A., F.S.A.

JOSEPH B. YATES, F.S.A.

ARTHUR H. HEYWOOD, TREASURER.

WILLIAM LANGTON, HON. SECRETARY.

CHETHAM MISCELLANIES.

VOLUME THE SECOND:

CONTAINING,

THE RIGHTS AND JURISDICTION OF THE COUNTY PALATINE OF CHESTER, THE EARLS PALATINE, THE CHAMBERLAIN, AND OTHER OFFICERS.

THE SCOTTISH FIELD. (A POEM ON THE BATTLE OF FLODDEN.)

EXAMYNATYONS TOWCHEYNGE COKEYE MORE, TEMP. HEN. VIII. IN A DISPUTE BETWEEN THE LORDS OF THE MANORS OF MIDDLETON AND RADCLYFFE.

A HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT CHAPEL OF DENTON, IN MANCHESTER PARISH.

A LETTER FROM JOHN BRADSHAWE OF GRAY'S INN TO SIR PETER LEGH OF LYME.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.
M.DCCC.LVI.

Manchester:
Charles Simms and Co., Printers.

1390763

ADVERTISEMENT.

In laying before the Members a Second volume of Miscellanies, the Council of the Chetham Society have the satisfaction of announcing that materials are already in preparation for a Third; and they take this opportunity of inviting contributions from the Members and other persons interested in antiquarian pursuits. They may repeat what they have already expressed in the Advertisement to the First volume, that nothing which tends to throw light on the habits, customs, and institutions of our race can be uninteresting to those who make mankind their study. Thus old wills, letters, deeds, authentic examples of early heraldry, materials for elucidating topography, or family, county, and general history, examples of the progress of language and of the arts, may each and all find their appropriate place in these volumes.

Any persons desirous to further the objects which the Society propose in the publication of Miscellanies, are requested by the Council to entrust their contributions to the care of the Honorary Secretary, at the address of the Manchester and Salford Bank.

WILLIAM LANGTON,

HONORARY SECRETARY.

THE

Rights and Jurisdiction

OF THE

COUNTY PALATINE OF CHESTER, THE EARLS PALATINE, THE CHAMBERLAIN, AND OTHER OFFICERS;

AND

DISPUTES CONCERNING THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURT OF EXCHEQUER WITH THE CITY OF CHESTER, &c.

NOW FIRST PRINTED FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT IN THE POSSESSION OF THE EDITOR;

WITH INTRODUCTORY NOTICE BY

JOSEPH BROOKS YATES,

F.A.S., G.S., AND P.S.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.LIV.

INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

Of the three great Palatinates of England that of Cheshire is the most ancient, having existed as such from the time of William the Conqueror. Some writers, indeed, ascribe to it a much higher antiquity, but it is evident that this claim cannot be supported, seeing that up to the Norman conquest the county of Chester was merely a component part of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia. Much uncertainty exists as to the titles, the powers, and the personal history of the rulers of this kingdom; and of the Palatinate there remain no public records which bear date prior to the time of King Henry III., when it was annexed to the crown. The ancient earls of Chester exercised jurisdiction over the city and the whole county, and over Flint after the reduction of *that* county by the Norman earls. These petty sovereigns were not bound by the English acts of parliament, but held their own parliaments, together with their criminal and civil courts. They appointed judges and justices, pardoned criminals, and all writs and indictments ran in their names; such high and otherwise unaccountable jurisdiction being judged necessary by reason of the proximity of the Welch marches, and the necessity of a vigorous resistance to the frequent inroads of the Ancient Britons. The inhabitants were tenants in chief to the earls, as the earls

were to the king, and were bound to attend on the Sword of the former. Among the Saxon earls of Mercia (in which Cheshire was included) there was no hereditary descent, but William the Conqueror made a grant (A. D. 1070) to his kinsman Hugh Lupus, son of the Viscount D'Avranches, of the whole county of Cheshire, *to hold to him and his heirs as freely by the Sword, as the king himself held England by the Crown.* In the British Museum there exists a Sword generally ascribed to this earl, of which an engraving is given by Lysons in the *Magna Britannia.*(1) The blade is 3 feet $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches in length, and is two-edged; the hilt of brass gilt, ornamented on each side with four panels of mother of pearl, and containing in the pommel several concentric circles, the two innermost of which are ornamented with scrolls and foliage exquisitely designed and finished after an antique pattern. Immediately below the hilt is the following inscription, HUGO COMES CESTRIÆ.(2) An investiture with a Sword to which such high powers were attached, was a matter of paramount importance in the Palatinate, and constituted an æra from which events were frequently dated in a roll, called *The Cheshire Domesday,* not a portion of the Conqueror's great *Domesday Book* of England, but, according to Leycester, a roll "antiently remaining among the records at Chester, but now (1673) lost and taken away."(3) So

(1) Vol. ii. part ii. p. 461.

(2) Mr. Ormerod, the very able historian of Cheshire, doubts whether it may not have been the sword of Hugh Kevelioc the fifth earl, and great-great-nephew of Lupus. See *Vetusta Monumenta,* (vol. v.) where may be found a description of two other palatinate swords, belonging to Edward V. when Prince of Wales.

(3) *History and Antiquities of Cheshire,* (p. 220.) Much has been written and said as to the present existence of this very important document, and some individuals have affirmed that they were the fortunate possessors of the whole or large portions of the same. This is evidently not so. But it is equally certain that there exist in

inviolate was the jurisdiction of the Palatinate courts that King Alfred is said to have put to death one of his Justices for passing sentence upon a malefactor who had committed an offence in a place where the king's writ did not pass. The ancient earls of Chester sometimes exercised the remarkable power of partially transferring their authority to others, who in their turn transferred the same to a second set of delegates. Of this a curious instance is recorded by Leycester (p. 141 et seq.) as having occurred at the beginning of the thirteenth century.(1)

the library of the Marquis of Westminster at Eaton, and in the College of Arms, large and accurate transcripts of detached parts. See Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, vol. i. p. xiii. et seq.

(1) "Earl Randle was distressed by the Welsh and forced to retreat to the castle of Rothelent in Flintshire, where they besieged him. He presently sent to his constable of Cheshire, Roger Laey, surnamed *Hell* for his fierce spirit, that he would come with all speed, and bring what forces he could towards his relief. Roger, having gathered a tumultuous rout of fidlers, players, coblers, debauched persons, both men and women, out of the city of Chester (for 'twas then the fair-time in that city), marcheth immediately towards the earl. The Welsh, perceiving a great multitude coming, raised the siege and fled. The earl, coming back with his constable to Chester, gave him power over all the fidlers and shoemakers in Chester in reward and memory of this service. The constable retained to himself and his heirs the authority and donation of the shoemakers, but conferred the authority of the fidlers and players on his steward, which was then Dutton of Dutton, whose heirs enjoy the same power and authority over the minstrelsy of Cheshire even to this day; who, in memory hereof, keep a yearly court upon the feast of St. John Baptist at Chester, where all the minstrels of the county and city are to attend and play before the lord of Dutton," &c.

Whether any formal document was executed by Roger Laey is not known; but John, the son of Roger, granted the following deed to Dutton, the original of which was remaining (says Leycester) "among the evidences of that family." From this deed it appears that the subjects of Hugh Dutton's government were a different and a much more remarkable class than fiddlers and players: —

"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Johannes Constabularius Cestriæ, dedi et concessi, et hâc presenti chartâ meâ confirmavi Hugoni de Dutton et hæredibus suis

When King Henry III. took the earldom into his own hands, (as mentioned above,) he bestowed upon his eldest son the title of *Earl of Chester*. But a still higher dignity awaited the Palatinate; for under the pressure of circumstances brought on by his own weakness and irresolution, Richard II. raised in Cheshire a stout body of bowmen whom he called his guard, and in requital for their services he introduced an act of Parliament,(1) by which the county was erected into a principality, the king himself taking the title of *Prince of Chester*.(2) But this title was dropped a few years after, on Henry IV. repealing the acts of that Parliament,(3) and the county resumed its former rank and jurisdiction under a chamberlain, a special judge, two barons of the exchequer, three sergeants-at-law, a sheriff, attorney, escheator. &c. (4)

magistratum omnium Leccatorum et Meretricum totius Cestershiriæ sicut liberius illum magistratum teneo de comite. Salvo jure meo & heredibus meis. Hiis testibus Hugone de Boidele," &c. &c.

(1) 21st Richard II. cap. 9.

(2) One of the articles of accusation brought by Henry, Duke of Lancaster, against this unfortunate prince was, that he drew to himself a great number of malefactors out of the county of Chester, who, marching up and down the kingdom with the king, cruelly beat and killed the lieges, plundered their goods, &c., &c. These men appear to have been admitted to great familiarity with Richard; and of this a specimen is given in the manuscript *Chronicle of Kenilworth*. They are represented as addressing the king in the following terms: — "Dycon, slep sicury quile we wake, and drede nougt quile we lyve sefton; ffor ȝif thou haddest weddet Perkyn, daugter of Lye, thou mun well halde alone day with any man in Chester schire infaith."

This provincial discourse being turned into pure modern English may stand thus: — "Richard, sleep soundly while we watch, and fear nothing while we lie beside thee. If thou hadst married the daughter of Perkyn of Lye" (Sir Piers Legh of Lyme, near Macclesfield, beheaded by the Duke of Lancaster) "thou mightest have kept hallowntide with any man in Cheshire." It is possible that King Richard might have paid some attentions to this young lady. See *Archæologia*, vol. xx, p. 68.

(3) 1st Henry IV. cap. 3.

(4) Camden's *Britannia*.

Henry VIII. caused an act of Parliament to be passed, by which the Palatinate was rendered subordinate to the crown of England; but the separate jurisdiction was retained, and the title of Earl continues to this day to be assumed by the eldest son of each reigning monarch, associated with that of *Prince of Wales.*

By statute of William IV. cap. 70, (A. D. 1830) the separate jurisdiction was finally abolished. The last appointment of *chamberlain* took place in the year 1827, when the patent was granted to the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. His death occurred A.D. 1845. The *last justices* of the Chester circuit were Sergeants Warren and Jervis, who have also died since the abolition of the palatinate jurisdiction in 1830.

In looking over the long list of Chamberlains we meet with few names of much note until we arrive at the reign of Queen Elizabeth. On her accession the appointment was given to Edward Earl of Derby, and he was succeeded by the Queen's favourite, Dudley Earl of Leicester. By the Chamberlains who preceded the Earl of Derby the Palatinate rights had been so loosely maintained, that the juridical functions became gradually usurped by the mayor and aldermen of the Chester corporation, thus giving rise to a long and obstinate contention for the supremacy, as set forth in the manuscript now first published.

This manuscript is valuable, not only as explaining the nature of these rights, but as more fully exhibiting the character of a most distinguished member of the long and illustrious line of the Stanley family.

EDWARD THE THIRD EARL OF DERBY was well qualified, from his lofty and munificent bearing, to sustain the reputation of his great

ancestor Stanley, who in Bosworth field placed the English crown upon the head of victorious Richmond, and was thereupon created the first earl of that name. The subject of our present memoir was born A. D. 1508. Scarcely was the young nobleman of age, when he was appointed to attend Cardinal Wolsey on an embassy to the French king, Francis I., which had for its object the adjustment of several important affairs. He was also employed by Henry VIII. in the matter of Queen Catherine's divorce, and in his twenty-ninth year was dispatched by that monarch to the North, where, with such troops as he could on the occasion muster in Lancashire and Cheshire, he contributed largely to put down the northern insurrection, commonly called "The pilgrimage of grace." On the accession of King Edward VI. the earl was invested with the Garter, and afterwards assisted in establishing peace with the Scottish and French kings and the emperor of Germany.(1) In the first year of Queen Mary's reign he was nominated Lord High Steward of England, and, on receiving intimation of this appointment, he set out from his seat at Lathom, in the county of Lancaster, to wait upon Her Majesty, attended by more than eighty esquires all clad in velvet, and two hundred and eighteen livery servants. On the death of Queen Mary he was held in the like high honour by Elizabeth, who granted to him by patent the office of Chamberlain of Chester for six years.

(1) He surrendered to King Edward his family mansion in London called *Derby House*, adjacent to Doctors' Commons, receiving in exchange certain lands adjoining to his park at Knowsley. Derby House was afterwards presented by Queen Mary to Sir Gilbert Dethick, Garter King of Arms, and his brother heralds and pursuivants, to live in, and to discharge therein the duties of their office. On this site the College of Heralds is continued to this day, although the original Derby House (above mentioned) was burnt down in the great fire of 1666.

That he sustained this office with complete dignity and efficiency is amply attested by the present documents.(1) His death took place at Lathom in the year 1572, and his body was interred with very great pomp at Ormskirk. In recording the demise of this earl, Camden adds, "With him the glory of hospitality hath, in a manner, fallen asleep."(2)

During the reign of Elizabeth the nobility of England still maintained, in a great degree, the ancient munificence of their Order, in hospitality and in the number of their retainers. Indeed, with regard to the latter, the Queen at length judged it necessary to impose some restraints, although the frequent visits with which she honoured her subjects, rendered her interference with the former wholly impracticable. According to Strype, the number of the Earl of Derby's household servants amounted to two hundred and forty.

The general character of this nobleman cannot perhaps be better set forth than in the words of Stowe, that laborious and accurate annalist, who lived contemporaneously:

"The 24th October 1572, Edward Earle of Derby, Lord Stanley "and Strange of Knocking, Lord and Governour of the Isle of Man, "Knight of the noble Order of the Garter, and one of the Queene's "Majestie's Privy Councell, deceased at his house called Latham "in Lancashire. His life and death deserving commendation and

(1) The Earl of Derby then occupied his castle in Water Street, Liverpool, which was demolished a few years ago. At this time the mayor and corporation of the town were sorely perplexed respecting the return of a burgess to parliament, in consequence of the rival claims of the chancellor of the duchy and those of their two powerful neighbours, the Earl of Derby and Sir Richard Molineux. A curious account of their proceedings may be found in Baines's *History of Liverpool*, p. 226.

(2) *Life of Queen Elizabeth.*

"craving memory to be imitated was such as followeth: His fidelity "unto two Kings and two Queenes in dangerous times and great "Rebellions, in which time and alwayes (as cause served) he was "Liecuetenant of Lancashire and Cheshire, and lately offered ten "thousand men to the Queen's majestie of his own charge for the "suppression of the last Rebellion. His godly disposition to his "Tenants, never forcing any service at their hands but due payment "of their Rent; his liberality to Strangers and such as shewed "themselves gratefull to him; his famous housekeeping, 220 in "checkroll never discontinuing the space of 42 years; his feeding "especially of aged persons twice a day 60 and odde, besides all "comers thrice a week appointed for his dealing dayes, and every "Good-Fryday these 35 yeares one with another 2700 with meate, "drinke, money and money-worth. There was never Gentleman "or other that waited in his service, but had allowance from him to "have as well wages as otherwise for horse and man. His yearely "portion for the expences for his house 4000 pounds; his cunning "in setting bones disjoynted and broke; his delivery of his George "and seal to the Lord Strange, with exhortation that he might "keepe it so unspotted in fidelitie to his Prince as he had, and his "joye that he died in the Queene's favour; his joyful parting this "world; his taking leave of all his servants by shaking of hands, "and his remembrance to the last day. He was buried at Orms-"kirke on the 4th of December in most honourable manner." —

Stowe's *Annals*, London, 1631: fol. 673.

The following is a short analysis of the contents of the Manuscript now published:

1st. A brief history of the Chancery or Exchequer Court of the

Palatinate of Chester; Disputes between the Mayor and Sheriffs of the city(1) and the Chamberlain as to the jurisdiction.

2nd. Edward Earl of Derby, having been appointed Chamberlain by Queen Elizabeth in the first year of her reign, summons the Mayor and Sheriffs to meet him in his court at Chester; his oration and their contumacy; Mr. Glaseor the Vice-chamberlain is instructed to collect evidence concerning the whole case, and the Lord High Treasurer (Marques of Winchester) causes process to be issued against the Municipal authorities.

3rd. The hearing of the case in the Exchequer of Westminster, and decree of that court in Hilary Term, fifth Elizabeth, against the Mayor and Sheriffs, by which the dispute was terminated; Suggestions for the maintenance of the privileges of the Palatinate.

4th. Suggestions made by an anonymous party shortly after the accession of King James I. for sustaining the privileges of the Palatinate.

5th. A list of the offices, names and fees of the Officers of the Exchequer Court, as they stood in the first year of James I. (1603.)

6th. List of Chamberlains and Justices of Chester from 1323 to 1603, which differs very considerably from that furnished by Sir Peter Leycester, and that of Dr. Ormerod,(2) who has made an exact transcript of Leycester's list.

7th. Opinion, dated 10th February 1568, of the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and three other Judges, confirming the separate and independent jurisdiction of the Palatinate Court of

(1) The city of Chester was incorporated in the time of Henry III. under a Mayor and Sheriffs.

(2) See Leycester's *History*, pp. 169 — 177, and Ormerod's *History*, cap. iv. and v.

Chester, and its entire disconnection from the principality of Wales or "the Marches of the same." Prefixed to this opinion is a royal warrant for its enrolment in the Court of Chancery.

Sir Edward Coke has given a copy of this opinion in his fourth Institute, cap. 37.

The Manuscript was purchased by the present Editor at the sale of the effects of the late Mr. Matthew Gregson, author of the work entitled *Fragments concerning Lancashire.* It is written in a clear hand with close lines, upon strong parchment 4to size, and occupies altogether 13 pages. It is in very good condition, and was evidently written at the very commencement of James the First's reign.

The Editor considers this a fair opportunity to direct the renewed attention of the Government and of British Archæologists to the very rich and extensive mine of historical information which might be derived from the Manuscript Records deposited in the castle at Chester. They arise out of the judicial proceedings, both civil and criminal, of the Palatinate Courts from the time of King Henry III. down to their final abolition. It is certain that they have been for ages grossly neglected, and that many of them have been even taken away. Gough says, "If I am not misinformed of the state of the Records there, it is rather to be wondered that there are so many Manuscripts remaining."[1] In A. D. 1839-40, and again in 1852, they were examined, cleansed, and in some measure arranged by Mr. W. H. Black, Assistant

[1] Gough's *British Topography*, 1780, vol. i. p. 248.

Keeper of Records, whose reports thereupon to the Master of the Rolls are printed by order of the House of Commons.(1)

Although Mr. Black laboured in these missions for several months with his accustomed zeal and industry, he was able to do comparatively little towards the suitable classification and restoration of such an immense mass of confused documents. For some further curious information as to their value and their present condition, reference may be had to the printed *Journal of the British Archæological Association,* which contains an account of a Lecture delivered by Mr. Black at Chester on the 31st July, 1849.

It is proper to add that the remarks above made upon the large manuscript collections in Chester Castle apply, in a proportionate degree, to the minor deposits of Records remaining in the Courts of Great Sessions of the principality of Wales, which ought to be immediately looked after.

(1) Survey of the Records of Wales and Chester, made by Mr. Black in 1839-40, and Report dated 31st March, 1840, printed in the Appendix to Deputy Keeper's first Report to the Queen, &c. Further Survey by Mr. Black in 1852, and Report dated 31st December, 1852; printed 9th March, 1853.

The Rights and Jurisdiction of the County Palatine of Chester, the Earls Palatine, the Chamberlains, and other Officers; and Disputes concerning the Jurisdiction of the Exchequer Court with the City of Chester, &c.

The Countye Palatyne of Chester is and tyme out of mynde hath bene an auncient Countye Palatyne, and hath had and used throughout the same Regall Jurisdiction, within which the City of Chester is, and remaineth a parcel thereof; the antiquitye of which Countie Palatine is set forth in auncient histories, whereby yt appeareth that Earle Leofricus was Earle Palatyne of Chester in the tyme of Edwarde the Confessor, before the Normans conquered the Kingdome; at the time of which conquest the same Earldome was given by the Conqueror to his nephewe Hugh Lupe, to hold of him *adeo liberè per Gladium sicut ipse tenet Angliam per Coronam.* This Hugh was a right noble Earle, of whose worthye and memorable deedes there is much writen, which I do omytte as matters not pertenant to the dryfte of my discourse. To this Hugh succeeded Richard Earle of Chester, and unto him Randulph, then Randulph the Second, and after him Hugh the Second, and next to him folowed Randulph the 3d. This Earle, having bene in the Holy Lande, did upon his return home builde Chartleye and Bieston Castell; and having noe yssue of his owne, the Earldome was to descend unto his sisters, of whome one was maryed unto a nobleman of Scotland, called in that tyme Joannes Scotus, or Scoticus. To this John Earle Randulph gave his whole Earldome, who enjoyed the same

with some trouble by the opposition of a title for the other coheirs. He departed this lyfe in the xxth yeare of the reigne of King Henry the 3^{d} without yssue male, leaving daughters, betwixte whome and their auntes was great contention for the partition of the Earldome and the possessions thereof. But the King's Majesty, with a royall resolution to preserve the same, *quia noluit tantam dignitatem dividi inter colos*,(1) tooke the Earldome into his owne hands, and gave the ladies other possessions in recompence thereof; and at a parliament holden shortlie after did unite and annexe the Earldome, with all manner of jurisdiction and preheminence belonging to an Earle Palatyne, to the State and Principalitye, and to apperteine to the Prince and eldest yssue of the King, his heirs, and successors, as Earles of Chester, whoe have and tyme out mynde have had an auncient and ordinary Chancery Courte called the Exchequer of Chester; and an Officer called the Chamberlaine who by himself, and in his absence by his deputie, hath used the aucthoritie of a Chancelor to heare and decree all causes of Suite arysinge within the same County Palatyne wherein there was required equity and conscience.

But such is the custome of error, by the abuse of custome, that a long endured injurye becomes a com̄on reputed right, and liberties neglected are in tyme denied; ffor yt hapened in the several tymes of the Princes, being Earles of Chester, who for the moste parte kept their residence in the Marches of Wales with a Courte of Councellors to governe that Province, that some of the subjects, inhabitants in the City of Chester and in other partes of the Countye Palatyne, being possessed with spleneticke humours inclyninge to contention and troublesome vexacion of their neighbours, being not contented to enjoye the benyfite of their owne ease, soe as they might offer cause of dyseasc(2) to others, framed and pursued their complaints to the Councell of Wales to their great charge, when they might with quiet and good cheape(3) have

(1) Amongst Distaffs or Spinsters.

(2) Annoyance.

(3) With good cheape, *i.e.* cheaply — à bon marché (French). Hence Cheapside — Eastcheap, &c.

receaved justice at their owne doores; whose complaints the Councell there entertained and tooke upon them to determine, by meanes whereof yt became a confused governmente. The auctoritie of the Exchequer was much diminyshed, the Courte defaced, the Chamberlaine disgraced, having litle to do in his judiciall seate, and his office chieflye consisting in the keeping of a Seale, untill yt pleased the moste gracious Sovereigne Lady Elizabeth our late Queene in the first yeare of her moste happie and blessed raigne to give the Chamberlayne's office of the Countye Palatyne by her highnes lres patente unto the right honorable Edwarde Earle of Darbye, whoe as he was by birth noble, soe was hee by nature wise and by educacion learned; a man endued with rare bountye, exceeding affabilitye, and true pietye, with all other heroycall virtues, havinge obteyned amongest the great men of the Kingdome the name of the great Earle, and amongest the meanest sorte still called the good Earle; much esteemed of in Courte and noe lesse honored in the countreye; loved with ffeare, and ffeared bycause he was loved, soe as yt was harde to judge whether his greatnes gave grace to his goodnes, or his goodnes added a glorye to his greatnes; the memorye of whose honorable cariage is in the mouthes and by the tongues and pennes of men become ymmortall. This thrise noble Earle, having received his patente in Auguste, came to the Citye of Chester in September followinge to take his place, being attended with all the Knights, Esq^rs, and gentlemen of any qualitye in the Counties of Chester, Lancaster, and North Wales in moste magnificente and princelye fashion, to the great joye and applause of alle the beholders, and makeing William Glaseor Esq^re his Vice Chamberlain, unto whome he commytted a fulle deputation of his authoritye in that office. The Earle departed from thence back again into Lancashire, and not long afterwards there hapened to aryse some Suite betwixt two Citizens of Chester in the Exchequer before the Chamberlaine, whereof the defendant complained to the then Mayor(1) of the same Citye, alleaginge that the Citie was in the xxj^st yeare of King

(1) John Cowper was Mayor.

Henry the VII[th] made a Countye of ytself, and seperated from the Countye Palatyne: and that by Charter of the same King granted unto the Mayor and Citizens, all causes arising within the said Citye, were Determinable before the Mayor: And that noe Citizen ought to bee called foorth of the same Citye to any other courte. Which the Mayor unadvizedlye heard, and rashlie resolved to calle the other partie before him and thereupon commytted him to the Northgate, being the Goale of the Citye, for his contempte. Whereof when the Vice Chamberlain was informed, hee presently awarded a wrytte of *Corpus cum causa,* directed to the Sheriefes of the Citye, commanding them to bring the partie (soe commytted to the Northgate) before him into the Exchequer, together with the cause of his imprisonmente; which the Sherifes contempteouslye refused to doe, ffor which offence a ffine was imposed upon them, which nevertheles they little regarded, but contynued dailie more and more to disobeye the Chamberlain's aurthoritie. Mr. Glaseor seing this traveiled into Lancashire to the Earle to informe him of these proceedings, and to advise, and consulte with his Honor, for a speedy remedye. The Earle, like himself, impatient of wronge, and disdeyninge to be disparaged of any parte of authoritye, did thereupon resolve to retourne to Chester, determinyng firste to assaye by courtysie to drawe the Maior and Citizens to conformitye, and by his presence to tourne their obstinacie into obedyence; wherein yf hee failed then to take a sharper course. And being accompanyed with the Lord Straunge, the Lord Mountegle, and Sir John Savage, and attended with Sir Richard Sherborne and some few others, men of special choyce and place in his secret counsailes, hee came againe to the Citye, and sitting in person in the Exchequer, he sent for the Maior and Sherifes to come unto him, who thereupon appeared in Courte, unto whom the Earle then spake as followeth: —

THE ORATION OF THE EARL.

Forasmuch as yt hath pleased the Queene's most excellent Majestie to appointe mee Officer in this charge and form which hath governmente not only of the Countye Palatine of Chester, but also of the countie of the citye of Chester, being parcell, and within the same countye palatine, as a Chancelor or Head officer in Equitye, to mainteyne the Just, and to reforme the wronge; Wherein nevertheles, bee Divers, and Sundrie officers and ministers, to execute the Lawes commytted to their charge, and authoritye, as you Mr. Maior, the Sherifes, Coroners, Constables, and others verie necessarie in everie your offices and degrees; The well doing whereof tendeth to your comoditye and mainteineth the estate of this citye, by the queene's majestye's noble progenitors, Earles of Chester founded and made; And contrariwyse, the abuse and evil doinge of any of your officers procureth your owne Discomoditye and Hindrance, and provoketh the overthroue, and Distruction of your Estate and authorytie, which I rather wishe, to bee mainteyned, than otherwise decayed; And hearing of some Disobedience, or Disorder practized by you the officers of this citye now in my tyme of being officer, otherwise then before hath bene used, or donne, and otherwyse then Dutye requireth to doe, Whether it bee, for that you mislike of mee, and my Governmente, or els that you pretend to attribute unto your selves, an authoritie above mee, and my office, to dooe what you list without controlment, wch is not sufferable — Therefore I have thought good to call you presently for reformacone of the premysses. And as I am bound by the lawes of this Lande to minister to every one Justice, whereof you shall not wante in this Office, soe shall you, in friendlie, and well usage of yourselves, bee assured to have the furthest favour I can conveniently bestowe upon you and this citie, as oportunitye shall serve. But, yf you will contrarywise run on headlonge in your presumpteous abuses, you shalbee well assured of reformacon to your griefe, for the bruite, or slander, of the officers and subjects(1) in these

(1) Subordinates.

partes, and their evill doeings, is great, — the neglectinge of amendemente greater, and the evill mainteynance of the same, everywhere is moste of all. Whoe cannot but lament to heare and knowe these disorders in a Christian realme, governed by soe gracious a Princesse as this daie reigneth over us, not reformed? Whoe in rule wolde not spend tyme and authoritye of these to bee amended? And what officer maye in conscience toward God, and dutye unto our Sovereigne, answer and discharge himself for the contrarye? Not I, for my parte, whatsoever you Mr. Mayor, and your brethren doo ymagine. Wherefore wishing all well, I advise you, and the rest of your Citye, to understand well yourselves, and the authoritye you have, from hence, commytted to you by your Charters, which is your onlye countenance. The liberties whereof being dulye used, are meete to be preserved, and therein I wilbee your helpe. Presume not to infringe the same by usurpation. See Justice with you well excuted. Obey your heads and chiefe officers, and contemne not the Queens Majestys Wryte under this seale directed, neither yet the orders of this Courte. Therebye you shall bee assured to finde, quyetnes, increase of wealth, ffriendshippe and Amytie — and not to faile, to avoyde such hinderance, trouble, griefe, and displeasure, as otherwyse wolde ensue. Whereof I woulde bee very sorie, for the goodwill I have long tyme borne this Citye, and also for neighbourhood sake betwene us, and mainelye for that I am an Englisheman, desiringe the wealth[1] of my country, which unto this Citye by these Degrees is to bee obteined.

To this, the Maior, with acknowledgemente of duetie and affection to his Lordshippe, in the name of the whole Citie made answer. That as hee was bound by an Othe to maintene the liberties of the Citye, soe coulde he not without infringement thereof, yeld obedience to the courte of Exchequer and therefore humblie desired his Consideracon.

(1) Well-being.

My Lord replyed that he was sorie to see their foolishe wilfulnes; albeit that he had power, and authoritie to compell them to yeeld obedience as became theim. Yet hee would not in this case, censure their contempt, but woulde take a prudent course, that the controversie shoolde be decyded in another place, to their greter charge and further trouble. Thereupon the Earle departing home, did consult with his Vice-Chamberlayn, what was to be done in this busynes. In which conference yt was resolved that an Informacone sholde be exhibited unto the courte of Exchequer at Westminster in the Queen's Majesty's behalf, againste the Maior and Citizenes, and that Mr. Glaseor shoold Prosecute y^e^ cause, whoe ymmediatlie caused a dilligent search and examination to bee made of all the records in the Excheq^r^ at Chester, and collected from thence, apparent matter of proofe, by many Precedents that the Citye of Chester, was parcell of the Countie Palatine, and that the Citizens ought to bee subject to that courte, and to the Chamberlain as to their Chauncellor, and head officer; and caused these records of pregnant proofe, and validitye to bee transcripted, sending theme by his secretarie, with a Letter from himself unto the Lorde Marques of Winchester, then High Treasurer of England, and whome hee advertized of these matters, and desired his Lp's favor, as well for the preservation of her Majesties right in the Countye Palatyne, as for the honor of the Earle of Darbye, unto whose Government the same was commytted. Unto which the Lorde Marques retourned answer as followeth:

To my Lobing friend William Glaseor Esq^r^. Vicechamberlain of Chester. I commende mee hartily unto you. Findinge by your Letters, that you bee greatlie troubled, with the Mayor and his brethren of the Citie of Chester, for their Disobedience of the proces, directed from the Queens County Palatine of Chester, whereof they and their Citye have ever bene parcell and must bee, for y^t^ is parcell of the Principalitye; and of these matters I have heard your Secretarie and considered your articles touchinge your Records, which I have willed your Secretarie to bring with you to London; and the Mayor and his companye

shall appeare which shalbee Crastino Januarii. And against that tyme, gather all your recordes together that may serve that purpose, that they may be readye. And I have writen to Mr. Maior and his brethren; and soe I have to Mr. Recorder, of the which letters your Secretarie hath the Doubles; Therefore I write no further to you of yt, praieinge you to execute the same with all dilligence. And what faulte soever ryse on their partes, yt will have punishment well ynough. And the Callender for your proofes I have sent to make by your Secretarie, whoe shall have it with him, yf hee tarye for yt; and yf not, it shalbee sent to you by a precise messenger, bycause yt may bee surelye delivered. The proces goeth againste theise men—John Cowper Maior, John Webster alderman; Richard Dutton, and Thomas Pillyn Sherifes; William Hamnet and Henry Leeche. Which bee ynough for this matter. And of this order give you some knowledge to my Lord of Darbye, for that hee is head of your office and let him understand what I have wryten, as thereof his Lordship may consider, and give his advise, and ayde with his Councell in the mainteinaunce of the Queene's right that hath ever bene contynued till this tyme. Which I would not have decaye, for the Queen's right in the behalf of the Principalitye, and of my Lord's honor, that may not well bee endured to bee decayed in his time, that alwayes before hath beñe mainteyned by meaner men. And let no parte of my Lorde's office bee dimynished as neare as you maye. And heere I leave you for this tyme, and bid you farewell.

Wryten this VIIIth of September 1561.

Your loving friend

WINCHESTER.

The Mayor, Shereiffes, and the rest being served with proces repared to London, and Mr. Glaseor likewise in the behalf of the Earle caryeing with him letters from the Earle to the Lord Treasurer and to divers other persons of honourable place, requiring their furtherance in the cause. Where, after long and tedious traviell, large and liberall expenses, the matter received solemne hearinge in the Court at Westminster, and was ordered as hereafter foloweth:

Termino sancti Hillarii anno quinto Reginæ Elizabeth in Scacario dictæ Reginæ apud Westminster.

Whereas heretofore debate, strife, and controversie hath bene had, moved and depending in this honorable House of Exchequer between our Sovereigne Lady the Queen's highnes that now is, and the Mayor Sheriffs and Citizens of the City of Chester for or concerning the privilege prerogative and Jurisdiction of her Highnes's County Palatyne of Chester, and for and concerning the power authority and Jurisdiction of the Courte of the Exchequer there, and for and concerning the authority and jurisdiction of the Chamberlaine of the County Palatyne; and for and concerning the liberties ffranchises and jurisdiction of the said Mayor and Sheriffs within the said City by reason of divers contempts wherewith the late Mayor and Sheriffs have been charged; ffor the endinge, appeasinge and finall determination whereof the said Mayor Sheriffs and Citizens according to a former Order in that behalf taken, have sent up Willm̄ Gerrard Esq^re^ Recorder of the said City sufficiently authorized in that behalf, with all their Charters, to them heretofore granted by the Earles of the said County Palatyne, and other the Queen's highnes moste noble progenetors. Whereupon the matter hath bene divers tymes heard, and thoroughlie debated before the right honorable, William Marques of Winchester the high treasurer of England, Sir Walter Mildmaye Knight, Chancelor of this Courte of Exchequor, Sir Richard Sackvill Knight under Treasurer of this Courte and Sir Edward Sanders Knight Chief Baron of the same Courte, by the advise and assent of Thomas Carus Esq^r^ Sergeant at Lawe to our Sovereigne Lady the Queen's highnes and William Gerrard and William Roswell Esq^res^ Her Grace's Attorney and Solicitor generall, and others of this said Courte of Exchequor. And divers and sondrie auncient Records shewed and exhibited in the behalf of our said sovereign Lady the Queen's highness by William Glaseor Esq^re^ deputye Chamberlayne to the right honorable Edward Earle of Darby — nowe Chamberlaine of the saide County Palatyne — as well for the proofe of the auntient and legall jurisdiction, power and preemynence of the said

County Palatyne as also for proofe and declaration of the Jurisdiction of the said Courte of Exchequor at Chester and of the Chamberlaine of the said Countie Palatyne. And in like manner diverse and sondrie Charters have bene shewed forthe and exhibited by the said Willm Gerrard for the proofe and maintenance of the liberties jurisdiction and ffranchises of the said Mayor and Sheriffs within the Liberties of the said Citye of Chester.

And forasmuch as upon the sight, perusing and deliberate consideration of the said Records exhibited and showed foorth by the said Willm Glaseor yt hath evidentlye appeared That the saide Countye Palatyne of Chester is, and tyme out of mynde hath bene an auntient Countye Palatine, and hath had and used throughout the same Countye Palatyne legall Jurisdiction. Within which Countie Palatine the said Citye is and remayneth as parcell and member thereof. And that the said Courte and Excheq^{r} of the said Countye Palatyne is and tyme out of mynde hath bene the ordinary Chauncerye Courte of the said Countye Palatine. And that the Chamberlaine for the time being, and in his absence his Deputie is the Chauncellor and chief officer of the same Courte of Exchequer of the said Countye Palatyne for all causes pertaining to the Jurisdiction of a Chauncellor. And that the Officers of the said Citye have used and ought to make retourne of all Proces to them directed under the seale of the said Earldome; and forasmuch also as yt hath evidently appeared, that the Mayor and Citizens of the said City of Chester have by divers and sundry Charters divers Liberties and Franchises to them conveighed and graunted by diverse and sundrie the Queen's Highnes moste noble progenitors, and others Earles of Chester, as well under y^{e} great seal of England as under the speciall seale of the said Earldome.

Nowe the said Lord treasurer and others aforesaid, considering that the said Earldome and Countie Palatyne is annexed and united to the Principalitye, and shall and ought to appertaine to y^{e} Prince and oldest yssue of the Queen's Ma^{ty} her heirs or Successors, whensoever yt shall please God of his grace and goodness to give that comforte and benyfitt to our said sovereigne Lady and this her Realm;

And mynding as well the mainteynance and Regall Jurisdiction of the said County Palatyne and of the authoritye and Jurisdiction of the said Courte of Excheq^{r} at Chester, and of the said Chamberlaine, and of the other officers of the said Countye Palatyne as also the preservation and continuance of the libertie ffranchises and Jurisdiction of the said Maior and Citizennes for quyetnes and good order hereafter to bee had — Do Order, Declare, Determyne and Decree in manner and forme following,

That is to saie:

First yt is ordered, decreed, and declared that the said Citye is within, and a member of the said Countie Palatine, and that the same is and ought to bee within and a member thereof, and soe shall bee from henceforth esteemed, used and taken.

And that the officers of the same Citye, shall from tyme to tyme make a good and sufficient retourne of all such writs of *Corpus cum Causa* and other writs as shall bee to them directed under the seale of the said Earldome according to the same writs; And also it is further Ordered decreed and declared That the said Courte of Exchequer of Chester is and tyme out of mynde of man hath bene the Chauncerye Courte of the said Countye Palatyne as well for the graunting of all Originall Proces, as for the proceeding in and determining of Traverses and other matters of Equitye appertaininge to the jurisdiction of a Chancellor, and that the Chamberlaine is and always hath bene the Chancellor and chiefe officer of the said Courte of Excheq^{r} of Chester &c.

The aforesaide Cause being thus ended, by the means and the countenaunce of the noble Lord Edward Earle of Darbie, the Courte of Exchequer began to flourishe, being restored to the fairest flower in her garland, and her plume furnished againe with the fethers shee had lost. And not long afterwards the like Order to the former, was obteyned againste the Councell in the Marches of Wales, forbidding them to intermedle in any causes of the County Palatyne, which I omytte as a thing over tedious to recyte. But

nowe the Courte of Chester became verie absolute, both in State and Authoritye, and soe hath contynued till this present tyme, and I hope will be still mayntayned to the unspeakable ease and benefite of the poore subjects of the Countrey. But I fear that the malice of the tyme is such as the Jurisdiction and Liberties of the Countye Palatyne will not wante adversaries whoe wyll attempte to set the wheele on runninge againe, and, as much as in them lieth, to deface, yf not altogither to overthrowe the same. To prevent that myschief, I will presume to yeeld my opinion on the fittest maner and moste convenyent course to bee taken, which consisteth in three thinges.

Fyrste that there bee a good Vice Chamberlaine appointed to governe the Courte well and to please and content the Countrey, who must bee no comon Lawyer, such being men more fitt to bee imploied in Courtes of Learninge then in cases of Conscience, for yf those shall bee corrupted with affection (as all men of flesh and bloud may bee) they have a farre greater scope to do amysse than other men, inclyninge sometimes on the one side with the Lawe, which like a Viper they suffer to eate through the bowells of Conscyence to serve their turne, and another tyme leaninge to conscience not for Concyence sake soe as fauour and parcialitye hath a free passage without respect either of Lawe or Conscience, which made Mr. Plowden (the father of the Lawe in his Tyme) to answer a Clyent whoe reteined him of Counsaille in a matter in the Chauncerye and ernestlie pressing him to deliver hys opinion, what would be the end of his cause and the effecte of his Order. "Surelye," saide Mr. Plowden, "I never reade Booke-Case of my Lord Chauncellor's Conscyence."

Thys consideraconn moved the Kinges of this Realme for the moste parte to appointe the Reverend Bishoppes of this lande to be Lorde Chancellors. And a late Experience wee had in Her Majesty's dayes of Sir Christopher Hatton, whoe from the Office of Vice Chamberlaine of Her Majesty's household was appointed to that Office in the high Courte of Chancerie, whoe at his firste entrance heard and reheard sondrye causes adjudged in that Courte by his predecessor a great Lawyer whose orders he reversed, and censured

that for mere Iniquitye which the great Lawyer had sentenced for good Equitye. It will be good therefore in this Office, to appointe an honest reasonable gentleman to be Vice Chamberlayne, such a one as feareth God, regardeth the honor of him under whom hee serveth, and respecteth his own credytte; and to associate unto him, the two Judges of Assize for the Shire, unto whose opinion the Vice Chamberlaine may resorte if there bee cause, and require their assistance for hearing of some speciall Cases, and by this meanes the Courte shall bee best served, Justice administred and the Countrey well satisfied.

The second waye to preserve the Liberties and Imunityes of the Courte is this — That whereas the Countie yeeldeth at the change of everye prince Three thousand marks called a Mize in regarde of enjoyinge their Auntiente Liberties — Which somme, althoughe yt bee not yet demaunded nor noe Commyssion directed for levye thereof, yet certeyne yt is that it will bee and *that* speedilye, called for. Yt shall bee requisite therefore when the comission cometh downe, that the chiefe Chamberlaine doe cause all the gentlemen of the Countrey to meete together and to subscribe to one Petition, to be preferred to the Kinges moste excellente majestie beseechinge the same, that the Charter of the Countie Palatyne may be confirmed by his highnes in consideration of the some of money which they are to yeelde accordinge to an auntiente Custome. And to staie the Collection of the saide Mize, till their auntient Liberties bee ratified and confirmed. Hereby His Majty shall not only have a true understanding of the state of the Countrye but noe doubte bee moved with a princelie mynde like to his noble progenitors Kinges of this land to mainteine, and preserve such an Antient and Regall Jurisdiction apperteyninge rightfullye to the prince.

The thirde and last is a Vigilance, that noe causes bee sued forth of the Countie Palatyne in any Courte at Westminster, but the same to bee presentlie called backe, and the parties plaintifes to bee severelie punished. In which course the chief Chamberlaine must from tyme to tyme afforde his honorable Countenance. And yf any Judge in any of the Kinges Courtes shall unduelye holde plea of the

cause of the Countye Palatyne, Complainte muste presentlye bee made to the King's ma^ty^ or to the Lords of his Highnes privie Councill, that the course maie bee stopte in the beginninge, for yt is ill suffering an ill example. And where the dore is well kept, the thiefe is more afearde to enter. But God of his goodnes hath provided a porter for his gate, and a protector for his Authoritye, Who in place and dignitye dooth equall any that hath gon before him, and for prudence, justice, and ffortitude dooth farre excell them. Whoe, as hee is potent in respect of the Royall bloud which doth adde a Lustre to his brightnes from the shininge of the sun, soe maye hee enjoye the inferior lightes of all this worldlie heaven, being of near kindred, and Affinitye to those, whoe sitte at the Sterne of the State and swaye the great affaires of the Kingdome. An exceeding blessing to this poore country, which I praie God make happie, longe to enjoye by longe enjoyinge of him, and that he maie live as many prosperous and quyet years as hee hath had troublesome dayes to the honorable advancement of his noble house, and the unspeakable comforte of all that love him.

The Names of the Offices in the Exchequer of the Countie Palatyne of Cheſter and their ffees. Ao primo Regni Jacobi.

Chamberlain by patent for lyfe		xx li		
Sir John Edgerton knight Baron or Clerke for Lyfe...		ix li		
Sir Hughe Beeston knight Controll r during pleasure..		xii li	iii s	iv d
Mr. Hughes Atturney Generall to the Prince		iii li	vi s	viii d
4·8 yearly	W m Ravenscrofte Gent. by a newe patent under the kings Majest. scale Sarjant	iii li	vi s	viii d
4·8 yearly	John Goodman Gent n... places void and noe pantente granted	iii li	vi s	viii d
4·8 yearly	Thomas Booth..... places void and noe pantente granted	iii li	vi s	viii d
4·8 yearly	Edward Smyth ..... places void and noe pantente granted	iii li	vi s	viii d
Mr. fferdinando Heighburne Examin:				
Richard Ridgdalle Bailyf Itinerant by a new patent...		iiii li		
Lawrence Waynwright messenger by a new patent...		iiii li		
The same Lawrence Cryer by a new patent.....		iii li	xv s	
John Nicholson Mason by a new patent		viii li		
Randulph Bellis Carpenter the like as the Mason.....		viii li		
Arthure Jeinson Surveyor by a new patent.....		viii li		
Attorneyes	Thomas Case.			
	Richard Werden.			
	Thomas Harper.			
	Robert Whitby.			
	Peter Middleton.			
	Thomas Whicksted.			
	Edward Broster.			
	Richard Newall.			
	John Johns.			

The Names of all thoſe who have been Chamberlaines, and Juſtices of the Countie Palatine of Cheſter ſince the xviiith yeare of the raigne of King Edwarde the Second.

Anno Domini	Anno Regni Regis	CHAMBERLAINS	JUSTYCES
1323. .	17 Edw. 2.....	Wilhelmus De Stonhall	Hugo de Audley.
1325...	19 „	Hugo De Brickhull.....	Richardus De Tramarye.
1327...	p̃mo Edw. 3...	Stephanus De Chestnutt.....	Willmus De Clynton.
1331...	6 „	Simond De Ruggeley Capellarius Comit.....	Dominus Rinaldus de Graye, Dominus De Ruthin.
1335...	10 „	Joannes Parnell	Henricus De fferrer.
1336...	11 „	Joannes De Essebye.....	Radulphus Stafford.
1342...	17 „	Thomas De Blaston	Rogerus Hillarye.
1345...	20 „	Willihelmus De Esington.....	Rogerus Burghersie.
1346...	21 „	Joannes De Wendover.....	Idem.
1347...	22 „	Joannes Pire	Idem.
1348...	23 „	Willmus De Lyndford.....	Idem.
1349...	24 „	Walter De ffulburne.....	Idem.
1350...	25 „	Willmus de Sparstowe.....	Idem.
1351...	26 „	Joannes De Branham senr....	Thomas De fferrar.
1354...	29 „	Joannes Branham Jr.....	Thomas De ffelton.
1377...	p̃mo Rich. 2...	Joannes Woodhouse.....	Thomas Dux Ebor.
1390...	14 „	Idem Camer:.....	Thomas Dux Clouster.
1393...	17 „	Robertus Paris.....	Robert De Vere—Dux Hibern.
1400...	p̃mo Hen. 4....	Thomas Barnaby and Joannes Episcopus Assaven....	Joannes Stanley Miles.

Anno Domini	Anno Regni Regis	CHAMBERLAINS	JUSTYCES
1413...	p̃mo Hen. 5....	William Troutbecke Armiger	Thomas Earle Marshall and Nottingham.
1441...	20 Hen. 6... .	Joannes Troutbecke Armiger.	Comes Salopie.
1459...	38 „	Richardus Tunstall Miles.....	
1470...	12 Edw. 4.....	Willmus Stanley Miles.....	
1486...	p̃mo Hen. 7....	Willmus Stanley Miles.... . .	Thomas Comes Darbie et Georgius Dominus Strange.
1497...	13 „	Richardus Poole Miles.....	
1507...	23 „	Randulphus Brerton Miles....	
1511...	3 Henr. 8.... .	Idem Camer:	Thomas Englefield Miles.
1546...	38 „	Ric. Mauxell Miles.....	
1553. .	1 Phillipe and Marie	Ric. Mauxell Miles.....	
1554...	2 „		
1559...	p̃mo Eliza.....	Edwardus Comes Darbie.....	James Throgmorton Miles.
1564...	7 „	Robertus Comes Lecester.....	Georgius Bromley Miles.
1589...	31 „	Henricus Comes Darbie	Richardus Shutleworth Miles.
1593...	35 „	Thomas Egerton Miles.....	Richardus Leuknor Miles.
1603...	p̃mo Jacobi....	Willimus Comes Darbie	Idem.

Elizabeth by the grace of God &c. To our right trustie and well-beloved Counsellor Sir Nicholas Bacon Knighte Keeper of oure greate seale of England greetinge. Whereas wee have been informed that the Jurisdiction and Aucthoryity of our County Palatyne of Chester hath bin of late years impeached by certeyn forraine officers upon pretence of certain Jurisdiction claimed by them within the said County, contrary to the ancient right of our said County Palatyne, We, minding to have our said County preserved in the ancient right thereof, did comand our chief Justice of our comon Pleas Sir James Dier Knight with other three of our Justices that is to say, Ric^{d} Weston, Rich^{d} Harpur, and Thomas Carus Esquires to call before them our officers of our said Countye Palatyne and such others also as pretended to impech the said Jurisdiction, and thereupon to certify us what they should find meet and due to be done for good order in the premises.

Whereupon they have shewed and declared unto us in writynge signed with their hands their opinion concerninge the said Jurisdiction and Liberties, and also concerninge a Controversie between our President and Councell in Wales and our Chamberleyn of our said Countie Palatyne grounded uppon a Case of one Thomas Radford, and to the intent some good order may insue and continue hereafter for quietnes and for Justice within our said County Pallantyne We doe herwith send you the said wrytinge of the said Justices conteyned in one sheete of paper presented unto us the tenth of february last and subscribed with their hands, willinge and requiringe you to Cause the same to be entred and inrolled in our Chancery, to remaine in record, and to be used and exemplyfied hereafter for the benefyte of our said County Palatyne and the residents therein as the case shall require; and these our letters shall be your sufficient Warrant and discharge in this behalfe. Given under our signet att our Pallace of Westm^{r} the xvith day of March 1568 the eleventh year of our Raign

P^{d} ipsam Reginam.

The Opinion of us Sir James Dier Knight Cheife Justice of the Coñon Plees at Westmr, Richard Weston and Richard Harpur Esquires two other Justices of the same Coñon Plees, and of Thomas Carus Esquire one of the Justices of the Pleas to be houlden before the Queen's Matie declared and presented unto her Highness the tenth day of february Ao Doni 1568 by vertu of her maties letters to us directed the second day of the same month concerninge the Jurisdiction and liberties of the County Palatyne of Chester and the authoritie of the Chamberlayne and his office there and concerninge the controversie between the Lord President and Councell in Wales and the said Chamberleyne's office growne uppon Thomas Radford's Case exhibited unto us, as ensueth, and first, that we have seene and considered the county of Chester wherein the citty of Chester is now and by a good tyme(1) hath bin a Countye of itselfe of very auncient tyme afore the Raigne of Kinge Henry the third hath bin and yet is a Countye Palatyne with other members thereunto belonging, And so from tyme to tyme hath bin received and allowed in the lawe. And therefore the Lawe's rightfull Usages and Customes of the said Countie Palatyne are to be preserved and maintained. It further evidently appeareth that by the like tyme of antiquity and continuance there hath bin and yet is in the said County Palatyne one principall or head Officer Called the Chamberleyne of Chester who hath and ever had all Jurisdiction belonginge to the office of a Chauncellor within the said County Palatyne. And that there is alsoe in the said County Palatyne a Justice for matters of the comon plees and plees of the Crowne to be heard and determined within the said Countie Palatyne coñonly called the Justice of Chester. We alsoe see that all plees of landes or tenements and all other contracts causes and matters risinge and growing within the said Countye Palantyne are pledable and ought to be pleaded heard and judicially determined within the said Countye Palantyne and not elsewhere out of the said Countye Palantyne; and if anie be heard pleaded or judged out of the said County Palantyne, the same is voyd and coram non Judice, except it be in case of error, forren plea,

(1) For a long time.

or forren voucher. We alsoe see that noe inhabitante of the same County Palatyne by the liberties lawes and usages of the said County Palatyne ought to be called or compelled by anie writt or proces to appear or answer anie matter or cause out of the same County Palatyne for anie the causes aforesaid, but only in Causes of Treason and Error. And that the Queen's Writt dothe not runn nor ought to be allowed or used within the said Countie Palatyne, but under the seale of the said County Palatyne, except writts of Proclamation by the statute of Ed. 6th Anno Regni sui primo.

It doth further appear unto us by good matter of recorde to us shewed that the Courte of Exchequr at Chester is and by the tyme of antiquitie and continuance aforesaid hath binn used as the Chancery Courte for the same Countie Palatyne And that the Chamberleyn of Chester is the Chief officer and Judge of that Courte, and that he is and tyme out of mind hathe bene a Conservatoure of the Peace by vertu of the same office and hathe like power authoritye and preheminence, Jurisdiction, execution of lawe and all other Customes Comodities and advantages perteyninge to the Jurisdiction of a Chancellor within the said County Palatyne of Chester as the Chancellor of the Duchie of Lancaster hath used had and ought to have used and executed within the County Pallatyne of Lancaster, which more evidently appeareth by the understanding of the first Grante made by King Edward the third unto John his son then Duke of Lancaster, whereby he made the same County Palatyne of Lancaster referring the said Duke to have his Chancellor's liberties and Regall Jurisdiction to a County Palatyne belonginge, *adeo integrè et liberè sicut Comes Cestriæ infra eundem Comitatum Cestriæ dignoscitur obtinere.* Alsoe it appeareth unto us that the Vice Chamberleyne did lawfully and orderly commit to Prison Thomas Radford named in the case referred unto us, for that he refused to put in suertyes for the peace within the said Exchequr uppon affidavit made in that behalfe. And that the proceedings of the Councell of the Marches touchinge the enlargement of the said Radford from the said ymprisonment and alsoe their further order and dealinge against the said Vice Chamberleyne was and is without sufficient

authoritye and contrary to the Jurisdiction of the Office of the said Chamberleyne and the auncient Lawes and Libties of the same County Palatyne. And we doe alsoe affirme that the statute of 34th and 35th H. 8th called the Ordinance of Wales, whereby the authoryty of the Lord President and Councell within the Dominion and Principalyty of Wales and the Marches of the same is established and hath the force of a law for or concerninge the determination of causes and matters of the same comprehendeth not the County of Chester and the City of Chester, because the same *Countie of Chester and the Citie of Chester be noe parte nor parcell* of the Domynion or Principalyty of Wales or of the Marches of the same.

And for the enjoying of which liberties within the said Countie Pallatine wee perceive that

The inhabitants of the said Countie of Chester have paid and must pay rightfully at the Chaunge of every Owner of the said Erldome three thousand marke called a Mize.(1)	mark ℔ ℔ ℔ £2000
And the inhabitants of the Countie of fflint, being Parcell of the said County Palantine must likewise pay too thousand marks which is alsoe called a mize.	marke ℔ ℔ £1333 · 6 · 8

(1) Mize or mise — a fine or levy.

1390763

The following supplementary List of Judges has been kindly furnished to me by Wm. H. Black, Esq., Assistant Keeper of Records. It is extracted from the manuscript Book of Practice on the late Chester Circuit, compiled by Serjeant Marshall, and by him left to Charles Warren, Esq., his successor. This book was deposited in 1847 by the representatives of Justice Warren in the Public Record Office, Rolls House, London, among other Records relating to Wales and Chester. It serves to continue the list from the first of James I. to the year 1830, when the Palatinate Judicature was finally abolished. In some respects it differs from the list given by Leycester, which comes down to A.D. 1669. It may be proper here to remark that Leycester's catalogue, both of Chamberlains and Judges, differs very considerably from that in the manuscript now edited.—J. B. Y.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF JUDGES

OF THE

COURT OF SESSION OF THE COUNTY PALATINE OF CHESTER, AND GREAT SESSIONS OF THE COUNTIES OF MONTGOMERY, DENBIGH, AND FLINT;

From the Accession of King James I. to the Abolition of that Judicature in 1830.

Sir Richard Lowknor.....	C. J.....	1 J. 1.
H. Townsend.....	P. J.....	1 J. 1.
Thomas Chamberlayne	C. J.....	14 J. 1.
James Witlock	C. J.....	19 J. 1.
Sir John Bridgman	C. J.....	1 C. 1.

Marm. Lloyed	P. J.	1 C. 1.
Richard Prytherg Esq.	P. J.	12 C. 1.
Sir Thomas Milward		14 C. 1.
John Bradshaw Esq. (1648)	C. J.	24 C. 1.
Peter Warburton Esq.	P. J.	
Thomas Fell Esq.	P. J.	1649.
Timothy Turner Esq.	C. J.	12 C. 2.
Sir Jeoffrey Palmer	C. J.	12 C. 2.
Robert Milward Esq.	P. J.	13 C. 2.
Job Charlton Esq.	C. J.	14 C. 2.
George Johnson Esq.	P. J.	26 C. 2.
Sir George Jeffreys	C. J.	32 C. 2.
John Warren Esq.	P. J.	33 C. 2.
Sir Edward Herbert	C. J.	36 C. 2.
[Edward][1] Lutwych Esq. (March to Oct.)	C. J.	2 J. 2.
Job Charlton Esq.	C. J.	2 J. 2.
John Trenchard Esq.	C. J.	1 W. & M.
Lyttleton Powis Esq.	P. J.	1 W. & M.
John Coombe Esq.	C. J.	2 W. & M.
Salathiel Lovel Esq.	P. J.	8 W. & M.
Joseph Jekyll Esq.	C. J.	9 W. 3.
John Pocklington Esq.	P. J.	6 Ann.
John Warde Esq.	P. J.	10 Ann.
Edward Jeffreys Esq.	P. J.	1 G. 1.
Spencer Cooper Esq.	C. J.	4 G. 1.
John Willis	P. J.	13 G. 1.
Sarne	C. J.	2 G. 2.
William Jessop Esq.	P. J.	2 G. 2.
John Verney Esq.	C. J.	8 G. 2.

[1] Supplied from the patent of his successor, Job Charlton Esq. This is the first of the series that appears to have been recorded in the Patent books of the Receipt of the Exchequer. It is dated 29th April, 2d Jac. II., and grants the office of "our Justice of the Counties of Chester and Flint, as Geoffry Palmer Knt., George Jefferyes Knt., Edward Herbert Knt., or Edward Lutwich Knt., formerly or lately Justices had holden the same." — *Auditor's Patent Book*, No. 10, fol. 142.

Richard Pottinger Esq. ...	P. J.....	8 G. 2.
Matthew Skynner Esq.	C. J.....	12 G. 2.
John Talbot Esq..	P. J.....	14 G. 2.
William Noel Esq...	C. J.. ...	23 G. 2.
Taylor White Esq.	P. J.....	30 G. 2.
John Morton Esq.	C. J.....	3 G. 3.
John Skynner Esq.	P. J.....	12 G. 3.
Francis Buller Esq. (Nov. till May)	P. J.....	18 G. 3.
Hon. Daines Barrington	P. J.....	28 G. 3.
Lloyd Kenyon Esq.. ..	C. J.....	20 G. 3.
Richard Pepper Arden Esq.	C. J.....	24 G. 3.
Edward Bearcroft Esq.	C. J.... .	28 G. 3.
Francis Burton Esq.	P. J.....	28 G. 3.
James Adair, King's Serjeant	C. J.....	37 G. 3.
William Grant Esq.	C. J.....	38 G. 3.
James Mansfield Esq.	C. J.....	39 G. 3.
Vicary Gibbs Esq. (summer circuit only)..	C. J.....	44 G. 3.
Robert Dallas Esq.	C. J.....	45 G. 3.
Richard Richards Esq. (summer circuit only)	C. J.....	53 G. 3.
Sir William Garrow	C. J.. ...	54 G. 3.
William Draper Best, King's Serjeant	P. J.....	57 G. 3.
John Leach Esq. (summer circuit only)	C. J.....	57 G. 3.
William Draper Best, King's Sergeant	C. J.....	58 G. 3.
Samuel Marshall, Serjeant-at-Law	P. J.....	58 G. 3.
John Singleton Copley, Sergeant-at-Law....	C. J.....	59 G. 3.
Charles Warren Esq.	C. J.....	59 G. 3.
Thomas Jervis Esq.	P. J.....	59 G. 3.

THE

SCOTTISH FIELD.

EDITED BY

JOHN ROBSON, ESQ.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.
M.DCCC.LV.

INTRODUCTION.

The Battle of Flodden was a favourite subject with the ballad makers of the sixteenth century; and when the publication of *Marmion* in 1808 gave new interest to it, Henry Weber, with the assistance and under the superintendence of Sir W. Scott, collected all the ancient poems connected with it, and appended them to his reprint of "Floddon Field." These consist of extracts from the Mirrour of Magistrates, the Laureate Skelton, Uppian Fullwell, Ritson's Ancient Songs, the Minstrelsy of the Border, and a Ballade of the Battle of Floddon from the Harl. MSS. 295 and 367. It is curious enough that in this collection not the slightest notice should have been taken of a Poem referred to in a work so well known to Scott as Percy's *Reliques of Ancient Poetry*,[1] and which is thus described: —

"But to shew how little can be inferred from a resemblance of rhythmus or style, the Editor of these volumes has in his ancient folio manuscript a poem on the victory of Flodden-field, written in the same numbers, with the same alliterations, and in orthography, phraseology, and style nearly resembling the *Visions of Pierce Plowman*, which are yet known to have been composed above 160 years before that battle. As this poem is a great curiosity, we shall give a few of the introductory lines:

[1] Vol. ii. p. 192, *Introduction to the Not-browne Mayd*.

Grant gracious God, grant me this time
That I may 'say, or I cease, thy selven to please;
And Mary his mother, that maketh this world;
And all the seemlie saints, that sitten in heaven;
I will carpe of kings that conquered full wide,
That dwelled in this land, that was alyes noble;
Henry the seventh, that soveraigne lord, &c."

It is again referred to in his *Essay on Alliterative Metre*[1]: —

"The other poem is that which is quoted in No. VI., Series II., Book I., and which was probably the last that was ever written in this kind of metre in its original simplicity unaccompanied with rhyme. It should have been observed in No. VI. above that in this poem the lines are throughout divided into distichs, thus:

Grant gracious God,
grant me this time, &c.

It is entitled 'Scottish Feilde,' (in 2 fitts, 420 distichs) containing a very circumstantial narrative of the battle of Flodden, fought September 9th, 1513, at which the author seems to have been present, from his speaking in the first person plural:

Then we tild downe our tents
that told were a thousand.

In the conclusion of the poem he gives this account of himself:

He was a gentleman by Jesu,
that this gest[2] made;
Which say but as he sayd[3]
for sooth and noe other.
At Bagily that bearne
his biding place had;
And his ancestors of old time
have yearded[4] theire longe,

[1] Vol. iii. p. 109. [2] 'Jest.'—*MS.* [3] "Probably corrupted for 'says but as he saw.'"

[4] "'Yearded,' i.e. *buried, earthed*, earded. It is common to pronounce 'earth' in some parts of England 'yearth,' particularly in the north. Pitscottie, speaking of James III., slain at Bannockburn, says, 'Nae man wot whar they yearded him.'"

Before William conquerour
this cuntry did inhabitt.
Jesus bring them[1] to blisse
that brought us forth of bale
That hath hearkened me heare
or heard my tale.

The village of Bagily or Baguleigh is in Cheshire, and had belonged to the ancient family of Legh for two centuries before the battle of Flodden. . . . . He laments the death of James Stanley, Bishop of Ely, as what had recently happened when this poem was written; which serves to ascertain its date, for that prelate died March 22, 1514–5."

There can be no doubt that Scott would do his best to get a copy of the poem; but the MS. was a sealed book then as it is now, and Bishop Percy, his manuscript, and the "Scottish Feilde," are ignored as if they had never been.

The jealousy, the controversies, the bitterness to which this volume has given rise, are now matters of literary history. In the fiery recriminations of Ritson and the grim silence of Scott are materials for exemplifying the weakness and rancour of literature. Such a devil's gift surely never was in mortal's possession before. It is a veritable bottle imp in calfskin; and we may be allowed to hope that before long it will be in its only safe receptacle — that Red Sea of all such dangerous property — the British Museum.

It is strange how many blunders the good Bishop has made in his account of the ballad; and as we have no access to the MS., we must leave the mystery unexplained. Why he did not quote more largely from what he calls a "great curiosity," and which certainly has more fine poetry than three fourths of what he printed, is equally inexplicable; perhaps (to judge from his mode of dealing with it) there has been little lost in consequence. He asserts that the writer was present at the battle, from his use of the first person plural (*ante*); when, as the reader will perceive, if this argument is good for anything, it shows that he was not at Flodden but in

[1] 'Us.'—*MS.* In line 6 above the *MS.* has 'bidding.'

France, as the tents were set before the town of Terwyn (*infra*, v. 28). The conclusion which he also quotes is most likely not the work of the poet, but of the minstrel who sang it, and who was desirous of gaining credence by the declaration of his authority:

> He was a gentleman, by Jesu,
> that this Jest made,
> Which said but as ye see,
> for sothe, and no other!

The explanation of "yearded" is startling; but the editor had forgotten that "earded" was a pure Saxon word for "dwelt." And lastly, the quotation from Pitscottie relating to "James III., who was killed at Bannockburn"! if not derived from the wonderful MS., must have come from some equally unknown source. It is much to be lamented that the character of him to whom we owe the "Reliques" should be exposed to such imputations by the short-sighted and ill-managed policy of his descendants.

This Poem, which now forms part of the second volume of the Chetham Miscellanies, was discovered by Mr. Beamont in the muniments at Lyme; it is written on strips of parchment which have been pasted together and form a roll of about thirteen feet long by three inches and a half wide: the first portion has been lost, or it would be between two and three feet longer. The writing is, in the opinion of Sir Frederick Madden, of the latter half of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and after a "Finis," written in German text with a flourish, we have

"The names of the lordes and gentilmen of Scotland that were slaine in deede at this late battaill upon Brankston more.

first the King of Scottes.
The bishopp of St. Andrewes
the kinges sonne.
Therle of Craford.
Therle of Leons.
Therle of Erram.

Therle of Argile and his brother.
The lord Maxwell.
Sir Davy Home lord of Nederborn,
with his sonne and his heire.
Sir John Home of Ayton.
Cuthbert Home lord of Fastcastell.
The lord of Dowse.
The lord of Blakat.
Therle of Bothwell.
The bushopp of the out Iles.
Therle of Agnus sonne and heire.
The Lord of Litt.
John Makennie.
William Cobborn lord of Langton.
Scot lord of Buckclough knight.
Alexander Hebborn of Ricarton knight.
Adam Hebborn of Cragges knight.
Thomas Towborne esquire.
The lord of Pens.
The lord of Carnbe.
James Stewart nere of kynne
to the King of Scottes.
The lord of Stelton.
The lord of Colston.
The lord of Ormeston."

I shall not attempt to find the legitimate owners of this odd travestie of names; neither will it be necessary to go into any detailed account of the battle itself. It will be enough to correct a statement of Sir W. Scott's,[1] who says that the English army advanced in *four* divisions — while in fact it was in two *battles*, each having a centre and two wings. The first battle or vanward was commanded by the Earl of Surrey's son, Lord Howard the Admiral, while the second or rereward was led by the Earl himself.

[1] Notes to *Marmion*.

The centre of the first division consisted of the Durham men under St. Cuthbert's banner and those from Yorkshire and Northumberland. The right wing (and the extreme right of the army) was under Edmund Howard, another son of the Earl's, and consisted of the Lancashire and Cheshire troops with Sir Thomas Butler, Sir John Booth, Sir Richard Bold, and others. The left wing consisted of men from Yorkshire and Northumberland. The right wing was driven back at the outset, and it was here where the Cheshire men suffered so much till they were relieved by Lord Dacre. The second battle, or the rereward, was under the immediate command of the Earl of Surrey, who led the centre, and its left wing was commanded by Sir Edward Stanley, afterwards Lord Monteagle.

The feud between the Stanley and Howard families dated from Bosworth Field, and has a marked place in the ballads which are extant, and which are all on the side of the Stanleys. They appear to have been patrons of literature at this early period, as is proved by the *Stanley Papers*, edited for the Chetham Society by Mr. Heywood.[1]

As we have the best authority for believing the Lyme MS. not to have been written before 1570, so we have reason for supposing it to be a copy of one of very early date, from the expression, "late battle of Brankston;" and this original may have been taken from the mouth of a minstrel, as we can otherwise hardly see how a Cheshire name, Foulshurst, could have been changed into Fulleswise, or the Lancashire Gerard have taken the form Jarred, which indeed is the genuine local pronunciation.

The poet has assigned the place of honour to John Stanley, son of the Bishop of Ely, and commander of his contingent. He afterwards married the daughter of William Handford — and hence we may have a reason for the emphatic manner in which Handford's name appears in the MS.

[1] A reprint of "The pleasant Song of Lady Bessy," in full, would have added much to the interest of Mr. Heywood's volume. It seems a very proper work for the Society, though it may be among the Percy publications.

It has been stated that the poet was not present at the battle; and this is proved by his misrepresentations, or at least mistaken and extremely confused account of what actually occurred. Thus he makes the banner of St. Cuthbert into the Scotch standard the banner of St. Andrew; and is either under the feeling himself, or wishes his readers to believe, that *young John Stanley*, as he is described in the other ballads, and who was not more than seventeen, was the real commander of the left attack, instead of his uncle Edward Stanley. But what is still more convincing is the fact that the morning of the 9th September, 1513, was not of that fine character which his imagination has depicted. The Earl of Surrey's despatch states that there was a great wind and sudden rain, much in favour of the enemy.

As the Bishop of Ely died in March 1515, the poem may have been written about two years after the battle.

With respect to the glossary, it requires much indulgence. It would be no hard task to paraphrase the ballad and give it an intelligible form; but to ascertain the precise meaning of every word and phrase is a very different matter, and in many cases we can at best only give a lucky guess. What written remains we have are scanty, and those not easily to be got at. A large mine, hitherto either not worked at all, or only in a profitless way — the real speech, not the rare words, of the people — has still to be made available for the history of language, or, what is nearly the same thing, of man's thoughts and progress.

It is difficult to know whether various phrases used had a real signification, or were merely conventionalities connected with the versification, such as:

He was so kene holden. . . *line* 60.
..... fuerse holden. . 495, 558.
Shott into a sure shipp,
and shoggeth over the water. 93, 94.
Then they light at a lotte. . . . 135.
Should meane them before. . . . 138.
Durst sitt him against. . . . . 142.

Full nighe his wanted wytte. . *line* 249.
Stepe of him selven. . . . . 298.
Upon that land light. . . . . 339.
Nere of nature to the duke. . . . . 378.
So dere God it ordeyned. . . . . 423.
On a soughe us beside. . . . . 440.
Then trumpettes full truly
They triden togeather. . . . . 448, 449.
How they songen with a shotte. . . 454.
Fullsewise full fell. . . . . 502.
Of that pure shire. . . . . 554.
Suche a noyse to my name. . . . 629.

It would be easy to give an intelligible meaning to such phrases as these, and many of them do not appear in the glossary as requiring explanation. But to set the matter more completely before the reader, we may take the following example, which will perhaps be quite enough for the occasion. There is the distich:

Then trumpettes full trulie
they triden togeather,

which might be put in the form — They made a trial of their trumpets, &c. But probably the verb trieden is a technical word applied especially to sounding trumpets. In Halliwell's Dictionary we find "Trie, 1. choice, select (A. N.)

He wold not ete his cromys drye
He lovyd nothynge but it were trie.
MS. Cantab. Ff. v. 48, f. 50.

Claryons cryden faste and curyous pypes
Tymbres, tabers and trumpers full trye.
MS. Cott. Calig. A. ii. f. 114.

2. to rush in; 3. to pull out." We have nothing here to determine the sense of the word; but in the second quotation it is connected with the sound of a number of musical instruments, trumpets included. In Ritson's *Ancient Songs* (p. 32) we have another form,

The threstlecoc him threteth oo,

where the glossary gives us no interpretation of the last two words; it describes the singing of the thrush—while in the earlier Anglo-Saxon *truth* means a trumpeter. Perhaps this may be hardly considered sufficient evidence to prove the existence of a word applied especially to the use of the trumpet, or to express some musical sound; but there is at least a presumption of it, and it becomes hazardous to express a positive opinion as to the sense of the word *trieden*.

In conclusion, the Editor is sorry that his labour has not been more satisfactory; but such a task, always difficult, becomes infinitely more so when there is a single manuscript only to refer to. The Poem is "a great curiosity," and especially interesting to Lancashire and Cheshire, and he hopes the CHETHAM SOCIETY will be glad to receive it with all its imperfections. He begs too to express his obligations to SIR FREDERICK MADDEN for his courtesies and assistance.

JOHN ROBSON.

Warrington, August 21*st,* 1855.

The Editor is indebted to the kindness of Canon Raines *for the following additional fragment of the first portion of the ballad, which he found amongst the Lyme MSS. and added to his valuable Lancashire Collections, but which came to hand after the remainder of the poem was in print.*

* * *
* * *

that dred was sone after,
Rayled[1] full of redd roses
and ryches enough.
There he bekered[2] with a lorde
that doughtie was euer;
Richard that riche lorde
in his bright armour,
He kidde[3] himselfe no coward,
for hee was a Kinge noble;
Ryght royall and fuerslye
he . . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
And rayned with . . . .
and ryches enough,
Fully fower and twenty yers
in thys faire lande.
He made frenchmen aferde
of his fell deedes;

[1] i.e. set. [2] fought. [3] he showed himself.

They payd him tributes,
many tolde thowsand,
That they might live in their landes,
and him their lorde calle;
But death at him drove,
that die must he nede.
Thus went forth of this worlde
this worschippfull lorde.

. . . . . .

with saintes enough.
I will meddell with this matter
no moe of this tyme,
But he that is myckle of myght
have mynd of his sowle!
Then succeeded his sone,
a souereigne most noble,
That proved was a prince
most pereless of other;
That was Harry theighth
oure most drede lorde.
When his father that furse fre[ke]
had fynished his daies;
He made frenchmen aferde,
and faire him besoughte,
That he would take their tributes
and lem[1] them no furder.
But he nicked them with nay,
and none of yt woulde;
For he woulde see onder their signorie
some of thaire faire townes.

[1] Qu. *tene*, injure.

Thus he graces him godly
with a greate [meany];
Fullye fourty thowsande
that carrie his armes,
For to go into Fraunce
at his biddinge wyll.
Then arose in this londe
a lorde that was noble,
Of Surrey that sure erle,
the saddest of all others,
As lorde and levetennennt
to loke this land ouer,
Yf any aliaunt[1] in his absence
durst auentur himselfe,
To visit or invade
his moste valiaunt rawlme.
Then he deessed[2] him to Dover,
our most drede Kynge,
With many lordes of this lande,
our lorde giue them ioye!
Of Buckingham that bolde duke
he was a burne noble;
And of Derby that deare erle,
that doughtie hath bene ever;
And Shrewsburie the trewe erle,
the saddest of all others,
As a worshippfull and wise
he royndeth[3] the cowarde.

[1] i.e. alien, foreigner. [2] Qu. dressed, addressed himself, went.
[3] Perhaps from the Cheshire roynt — he drives away. See Wilbraham's *Glossary*, p. 70.

The noble Erle of Northumberland,
with others of the same,
The winde to theire wylle,
wrought as they lyked.
Thus the gle . . . . to Calis
with greate schippes of warre,
And many small sailes
were seene on their mastes.

Lanc. MSS., vol. xxxviii. pp. 520, 521.

THE SCOTTISH FIELD.

* * *

When they to Calas come,
all this comely meany,
Our king, full of couradge,
carped theis wordes,
Calleth his counsell him till,
to weete of their will,
On what wise was best
his warres to beginne.
Some set him to a citie
that was sure walled,
And told him to Tirwin;
a towne that was noble;
That oft had been assaied,
both with Emperor and other
Yet would it never be wonen in warr,
for no weede upon [a]lyve:
There was no wight in the world,
that wynne it ne might;
Yt was so deepe dolven,
with ditches aboute.

[a] MS. lyre.

Then our king full of coradge,
carped theis wordes,
Saith, "I will sedge it aboute,
within this seaven daies,
And wynne it or I hence wynde,
with the help of our lorde,
Or leave here my life,
letees I you heete."
Thus he promised to the prince
that paradice weldeth!
There were cariadges with cartes,
and many kene weapons:
Our vawarde full valiantly,
avaunced themselven,
With trumpettes and taberettes
forward they wenten.
Beside the towne of Tirwin,
our tentes downe we telden,
And sedged it surely,
on sides all aboute:
And many a gaping gunne
was girde to the walles.
There they fell, at the first shotte,
many a fell fothir,
Of stones that were never stirred:
so stoutlie they shotten.
Now leve we our king
lying at the sedge,
And carpe of the Frenche kinge,
care him behappen!
When he heard how unkindly
his townes they were halched,

He piked him to Parice,
for thinges that might happen.
There called he his counsell,
for to knowe their myndes,
On what wise was best to wercke,
his warres to beginne.
He durst not counter with our king,
he was so kene holden,
For all the glaring goulde,
under god of heaven!
Then his counsell full kenely,
carped in this wise:
Saith, "Make furth a messenger
to the mightie king of Scottes,
And proferre him a present
all of pure goulde;
And byd him enter into England,
and awnter him selven;
He may wynne it in ware,
and welde as him liketh.
There are no ledes in that lande,
to looke him against;
All be faren into Fraunce,
that [a]proved were in armes:
But mislners and masse preistes,
there bene no men elles."
Then the king called an Erle,
which was a lord noble;
Sir Delamote, that derc duke,
that doughtie was ever.
He bid buske and bowne him,
to go on his message;

[a] MS. pvred.

He was as wise of his wordes
as any were elles.
Then that knight, full curtislye,
kneled to the grounde;
Sayeth, "I ame bowne to goe,
as ye bid me woulde;"
And tooke his leave of the king,
and the letter he taketh,
Shott into a sure shipp,
and shoggeth over the water,
Into Scotland, I you heete,
and there the king findeth,
And proffered him a present,
of poundes many thousand,
For to wynde to that warre,
and weld as him liketh,
And enter into England,
and weld yt for ever:
There is no lede in that lande,
to looke him against;
All bene faren into Fraunce,
that fuerse were in armes.
The king was glade of that golde,
that the gome brought,
And promised him full pertly,
his part for to take,
That his cossen, the Frenche king,
full sone should yt knowe.
Then sumoned he his sedges,
in sondry places,
That they should be at Blacabor
in their best weedes,

By the viiith daie of August,
to knowe their kinges mynde.
They come at his comaundment
Kettericke̊s full many:
From [a]Akenche that strange Ile,
there came a greate oste:
From Galaway a gay lord,
with a greate meany.
All Scotland theder come
to knowe their kynges mynde
Many Scottes and Ketterickes
bowed to his hande.
Such an ost of that nation
was never sene before!
Their names were nombered,
to nyne score thousand,
Truly by their owne towne,
as it was tolde after.
Then they light at a lotte,
the king and his lordes,
That the mightie lord Mackesfelde,
should meane them before,
With ten thousand by tale,
that were tried of the best,
To see whether any sedge
durst sitt him against.
Then they rested in that realm,
the knightes all togeder,
Till they heard of that battaile,
how that with him happed.
Then he bowneth him boldlie,
over the brode waters,

[a] MS. a kenche.

And manly him marketh
to the mylne feild:
He robbes like a rebell,
the right him against;
But all light on his ledes
at the later ende!
For killed they were like caitives,
as ye shall heare after.
When the comuns of the country
of their [a]coming wisten,
. . ledde they for fiere
. . . elly the ferden
. . . . . to wynde
. . . . . Daker.
in the Marche endes.
But he kepeth him at Carl[isle],
and kere would no further,
He would not medle with this ma[tter],
for no mans will!
Then a knight of that countrey,
that knowen was full wyde,
One Sir William Bowmer,
that bolde hath bene ever
He moveth toward his meany,
with men but a fewe,
Not fullie five hundreth,
that the freake followed.
Then mett he with a man
that had foure hundreth,
That was bold bastard Hearne
that bashed was never;

[a] MS. comon.

A warrior full wise,
and wittie of deedes.
When they were sumoned and sene,
those sedges altogether,
They were numbered nyne hundreth,
that was the highest nomber,
And [a]they were X thousand by tale,
upon the other partie;
Full unmette were they matched,
Mary, them speede!
Thus [b]they faren on the feilde,
[c]their foe men to seek.
Never rest would those knyghtes,
but alway rayked forwarde,
Till they had sene that sedge,
that they had sought after;
All those starlishe Scottes
that all the scathe deden!
Then nighed the night,
that byde must they neden,
Every rincke to his rest
radly him dressed,
Not the mountenance of a myle,
from their most enemies.
Sone after dayned the daie,
and the dewe falleth,
The sonne shott up full sone,
and shone over the hilles,
Brydes brayed to the bowes,
and boldlie they songen,
It was a solace to see,
for any sedge living!

[a] MS. the.
[b] MS. the.
[c] MS. there.

Then every burne full boldly,
bowneth him to his weapon,
Full radly in array,
royallie them dressed!
Our Englishmen full egerly,
attilde them to shott;
Skochen the cruell Scottes
with their kene arrowes.
Many a horse in that heape,
hurlde downe his maister.
Then they fetteled them to flye,
as false be they ever!
Yt serveth not, for sothe,
whoso trulie telleth;
Our Englishmen full egerly,
fast followed after,
And tooke prisoners preste,
and home again wenten.
There were killed of the Scottes
moe than xij scower;
And as many prisoners
were put to their ransomes.
Thus were they beaten at the first braid,
all that brawling people,
And likewise in the later ende,
as ye may heare after.
Then the mightie lord Mackelsfeld
over the mountains fleethe,
And kyred to his king,
with carefull tithindes:
Telleth him the truth,
and tarrieth he no longer;

Sayeth, "I ame beaten back,"
(for all his bigge meany,)
"And there bene killed of the Scottes,"
I knowe not how many."
Then the Scottishe kinge,
full nighe his wanted wytte;
And said "On who was thou mached
man, by thy southe?"
And he promised him pertly,
they passed not a thousand:
"Ye bene cowards," quod the king,
"care mote ye happen!
I will wynde you to wreke,
wees, I you heete,
And lying within that land,
the length of three weekes,
And distroy all aryght,
that standeth me before."
Thus he promised to the prince,
that Paradice weldeth!
Then he sumoned his sedges,
and set them in order,
The next way to Norham,
anone then he taketh;
He umclosed that castell,
clene round aboute,
And they defended fast,
the folke that were within:
Without socour come sone,
[a]their sorow is the more!
The erle of Surrey himself
at Pomfret abideth,

[a] MS. there.

And heard what unhapp
all those harlottes didden.
He made letters boldlie
all the land over:
In Lancashire belive,
he caused a man to ride,
To the bishopp of Eley,
that bode in those partes.
Curteslie commaunded him,
in the kinges name,
To somon the shire,
and set them in order:
He was put in more power,
than any prelate elles.
Then the bishop full boldlie,
bowneth furth his standart,
With a captaine full kene,
as he was knowen after;
He made a wee to wynde,
to warne his dere brother,
Edward, that egar knight,
that [a]epe was of deedes!
A stalke of the Standles,
stepe of him selven!
Then full radlie he rayseth
rinckes ten thousandes;
To Skypton in Craven
then he come belive,
There abideth he the banner
of his dere brother,
Till a captaine with it come,
that knowen was full wide,

[a] MS. repe.

Sir John Stanley that stowte knight,
that sterne was of deedes!
With four thousand fursemen
that followed him after;
They were tenantes that they tooke,
that tenden on the bishopp,
Of his houshold, I you hete,
hope ye no other.
Every burne had on his breast
browdered with goulde,
A fote of the faireste foule
that ever flowe on winge!
With their crownes full cleare
all of pure goulde!
Yt was a semely sight,
to see them togeder,
Fourtene thousand egill feete,
feteled in araye.
Thus they costen throw the cuntrey,
to the New castell;
Proclamation in that place,
was plainely declared,
That every hatell should him hie,
in hast that he might,
To Bolton in Glendowre,
all in godly haste.
There mett they at a muster,
men many thousande,
With knightes that were kene,
full well knowne in their cuntrey,
And many a lovely lorde,
upon that land light.

[a] MS. tho.

Then [a]they moved toward the mountains
those meany to seche,
Those skatell Scotts,
that all the skath diden.
They would never rest
but alway dayled forward,
Till they had sene the sedges,
that they had sought after;
But they had gotten them a ground,
most ungracious of other,
Upon the toppe of a high hill,
I hete you for sothe,
There was no wee in this world,
might wynde them againe,
But he should be killed in the cloes,
or he could clymbe the mountains.
When the lordes had over them loked,
as long as them liked,
Every captaine was commaunded,
their companie to order.
Though we were bashed of theis burnes,
I blame us but littell,
And yf I recken the Rewarde,
I rest must to longe:
But I shall tell you the best frekes,
that thereupon tenden.
The erle of Surrey himself
surelie it guided.
The lord Scroupe full comely,
with knightes full many;
Yf ye would witt the winges,
that to that ward longed,

That was a bishop full bolde,
that borne was at Lathum,
Of Eley that ylke lorde,
that epe was of deedes!
An egg of that bolde erle
that named was Standley;
Nere of nature to the duke,
that noble have bene ever:
But now death with his dart
hath driven him awaye!
It is a losse to the lande,
our Lord have his soule!
For his witte and his wisedome,
and his wale deedes,
He was a piller of peace,
the people amonge;
His servauntes they maie syke,
and sorowe for his sake,
What for pitie and for paine,
my pen doth me fayle;
I will medle with this matter,
no more at this tyme,
But he that is makles of mercie
have mynd on his soule!
Then he sent with his company,
a knight that was noble,
Sir John Standley that stoute knight,
that sterne was of deedes;
There was never burne borne,
that day bare him better:
The left winge to that Reward
was my lord Mounteegle

[a]MS. Lanchashire. With many leedes of [a]Lancashire,
that to him longed,
Which foughten full fuerslie,
Whiles the feild lasted.
Thus the Reward in aray,
rayked ever after,
As long as the light daie,
lasted on the grounde:
Then the sonne full sone
shott under the clowdes,
And yt darkened full dymly,
[b]MS. knight. and drew toward the [b]night.
Every ryncke to his reste,
full radlie him dressed:
Beten fires full fast,
and feteled them to sowpe,
Besides Barwick in a banck,
within a brode woode.
Then dayned the daie,
so dere God it ordeyned,
Cloudes cast up full clerely,
like castells full hie;
Then Phebus full faire,
florished out his beames,
With beames full light,
all the land over!
All was dampet with dewe,
the daysies aboute,
Flowers florished in the feildes,
faire to beholde,
Birdes brayden to the bowes,
[c]MS. the. and boldlie [c]they songen;

Yt was solace to heare,
for any sedge living!
Then full boldlie on the brode hills,
we bushed with our standarts,
And on a soughe us beside,
there seene we our enemies,
Were moving over the mountains,
to matche us they thoughten,
As boldlie as any burnes
that borne were of mothers!
And we egerlie with ire,
atylde them to meete;
Then trumpettes full trulie,
they triden togeather;
Many shalmes in that shawe,
with their shrill notes!
Heavenly was their melady,
their myrthes to heare!
How they songen with a shotte,
all the shawes over;
There was a gurding furth of gunnes,
with many greate stones,
Archers uttered out their arrowes,
and egerlie they shotten;
They proched us with speires,
and put many over,
That the bloud out braste
at their broken harnes!
There were swinging out of swordes,
and swapping of heddes,
We blancked them with billes,
through all their bright armor,

That all the dale dynned,
of their derffe strokes!
Then betide a chicke,
that Cheshire men felden,
In wynge with those wees
was my lord Dacars;
He fled at the first brade,
and they followed after;
When their captaine was away,
their comfort was gone;
They were wonte at all warres,
to wait upon the Standles,
They never fayled at no forward,
that tyme that they were.
Now, lost is their losse,
our Lord yt amende!
Many swyres full swiftelie,
were swapped to the deathe!
Sir John Both of Barton
was broughte from his life!
A more bolder burne,
was never borne on woman;
And of Yorkshire a yong knight,
that epe was of deedes,
Sir William Warkehoppe as I wene,
was the wees name,
Of the same shire Sir William,
that was so fuerse holden;
Besides Raderam that rinck,
his resting place had.
The Barne of Kinderton full kenely,
was killed them beside;

So was Honforde, I you hete,
that was a hynde swyer!
Fullsewise full fell,
was fallen to the grounde!
Christopher Savadge was downecaste,
that kere might he never!
And of Lancashire John Lawrens,
our Lord have their soules!
Theis freakes would never flee,
for feare that might happen;
They were killed like conquerors,
in their kinges service!
When the Skottes and the Kettericke,
seen our men sketer,
They had greate joy of their joyning,
and jolily came downwarde.
Then the Skottes king,
calleth to him a heralde,
Biddeth tell him the truth,
and tary no longer,
Who were the baners of the burns,
that bode in the valey?
"They are standartes of the Standles,
that stand by themselven,
Yf he be faren into Fraunce,
the Frenchemen to feere,
Yet is his standart in that stede,
with a styffe captaine,
Sir Henry Kighley is called,
that kene is of deedes,
Sir Thomas Jarred that jollie knight,
is joyned thereunder,

With Sir William Molynex,
with a manfull meany;
Theis freakes will never flee,
for feare of no weapon,
But they will sticke with their standarts,
in their stele weedes,
Because they bashed them at Berwick,
that boldeth them the more.
Lo! how he baters and beates
the bird with his winges!
We are ferde of yonder foule,
so fureslie he fareth!
And yonder streymer full streight
that standeth him beside,
is the standart of S^{t} Tandere,
That never beaten was in battaile,
for burne upon lyve!
The thirde standart in that stidde,
is my lordes Mountegle;
And of Yorkshire full epe,
my young lord Dakars,
With muche pusance and power,
of that pure shire."
Then the Skottishe kinge,
carped theis wordes:
"I will fight with yonder freakes,
that are so fuerse holden,
And I beate those burnes,
the battall is ours!"
Then he moved toward the mountaines,
and manly came downwardes,

We met him in the midway,
and matched him full even.
Then there was dealling of dentes,
that all the dales rongen;
Many helmes with heddes,
were hewen all to peeces!
This layke lasted on the lande,
the lengthe of fower howers.
[a]Yorkshire like yorne men,
egerly they foughten!
So did Darbyshire that day,
deyred many Scottes!
Lancashire like lyons
layden them aboute!
All had bene lost, by our Lorde!
had not those leddes bene!
But the care of the Scottes,
increased full sore:
For their king was downe knocked,
and killed in their sight,
Under the banner of a bishop,
that was the bold Standley!
Then they fetilde them to fly,
as fast as they might,
But that served not, for sothe,
who so truth telleth,
Our Englishmen, full egerly,
after them folowed,
And killed them like catiffes,
in clowes all aboute!
There were killed of the Skottes,
that told were by tale,

[a] MS. Yorkshippe.

They were found in the feild
fiftene thousand.
Lo! what it is to be false,
and the finde serve!
They have broken a book othe,
to their blessed king,
And the truce that was taken,
for the space of two years.
All the Skottes that were scaped,
were scattered far asonder!
[a] They removed over the more
upon the other morninge,
And their stoode like stakes
and stirre durst no further;
For all the lordes of their land,
were laft them behinde!
Beside [b] Brankstone in a briuck,
bretheles [c] they lyen,
Gaping against the mone,
their ghosts went awaye!
Then the Erle of Surrey himself,
calleth to him a heralde,
Bad him fare into Fraunce,
with theis faire tithandes:
"Commende me to our kinge,
theis comfortable wordes,
Tell him, I have rescowed his realms,
so right required;
The king of Scottes is killed,
with all his cursed lordes."
When the kinge his kindnes,
heard theis wordes,

[a] MS. the.
[b] MS. brymstone.
[c] MS. the

He saith, "I will singe him a soulkin,
with the sound of my gunnes,"
Suche a noyse to my name,
was never heard before!
For there was shott at a shotte,
a thousand at once,
That all rang with that rowte,
roches and other.
Now is this fuirse feilde,
foughten to an ende;
Many a wee wanted his horse,
and wandered home on fote;
All was long of the March men,
a mischeffe them happen!
He was a gentilman, by Jesu,
that this Jest made,
Which said but as ye see,
for sothe, and no other!
At Baguley that burne
his biding place he had;
His ancetors of long tyme,
have yerded there long,
Before William Conqueror
this country inhabited.
Jesue, bring them to thy bliss,
That brought us forth of bale,
That have hearkened me here,
And heded well my tale!

NOTES.

11 *And told him to Tir-win.*] Another of these puns occurs l. 218: "Skochen the cruell Scottes."

115 *Blacabor.*] Burrowmoor near Edinburgh.

120 *Ketterickes.*] Probably the same as caterans.

121 *Akenche.*] Orkney?

137 *Mackesfelde.* 238 *Mackelsfeld.*] The real leader of this inroad was Lord Home, the Lord Chamberlain of Scotland. See Pinkerton, vol. ii. p. 94.

162 *Daker.* 552 *Dakars.*] Lord Warden of all the Marches. In the official account of the battle it is stated that Lord Dacre came up to the support of the right wing when the Lord Admiral was beaten back, and restored order. But complaints were made at Court, and Pinkerton gives a curious letter which Lord Dacre addressed to the Council in the following May, defending himself against the charges made against him.

282 *The bishopp of Eley.*] James Stanley, brother of Thomas the first Earl of Derby. He was also Warden of the Collegiate Church of Manchester. He died March 22, 1515.

296 *Edward Stanley.*] He was not created Lord Monteagle till the following year.

308 *Sir John Stanley.*] The son of the Bishop of Ely, knighted on the field of battle. In one of Weber's ballads he is called "John Stanley that child so young."

324 *Egill feete.*] This cognizance of the Stanleys may be seen carved under an oriel window, apparently of the early part of the sixteenth century, in Conway.

332 *Bolton in Glendowre.*] Glendale.

360 *Though we were bashed of theis burnes,*
I blame us but littell.] These lines are evidently out of place, or something is omitted. Perhaps they should follow 355.

428 *With beames full light.*] The alliteration requires *leames.* "The while this light and this leme that Lucifer ablende." — *Pierce Plowman.*

470 *Then betide a chicke,*
that Cheshire men felden.] This check which felled the Cheshire men was mentioned in the Earl of Surrey's original despatch[1] much in the same way as it is here, except that Dakars is not mentioned in the French gazette. He says, "Edmund Howard had with him 1000 Cheshire and 500 Lancashire and many Yorkshire men. The Lord Chamberlain set upon him, and the Cheshire and Lancashire men never abode stroke, and few of the gentlemen of Yorkshire abode but fled." The French translation of this account given by Pinkerton leaves out the offensive part of the paragraph. The lord Dacars is perhaps intended for the lord Darcy, one of the gentlemen of Yorkskire.

486 *Sir John Both.*] Bothe or Booth, of Barton. See the pedigree, Baines, vol. iii. p. 113; see also *Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. ii. p. 46.

492 *Sir William Warkehoppe.*] "On the wynge of the righte hande of

[1] *State Papers*, vol. iv. p. 1.

the forwarde was Captayne Syr Edmonde Hawarde knyght, marshall of the hoste and with him . . . . Raufe Brearton Jhon Lawrence Richard Bolde Esquyers, and Syr Jhon Bothe Syr Thomas Butler knyghtes . . . . Robert Warcoppe . . . . with the men of Hull."— Hall's *Chron.* p. 557.

498 *The Barne of Kinderton.*] Thomas Venables.

500 *Honforde.*] Or Handford of Handford. A pedigree of this family will be found in the *Proceedings of the Historical Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, vol. ii. p. 54.

502 *Fulleswise.*] Fowleshurst or Fulleshurst of Crewe: written Fulchis in *Iter Lancastrense*, l. 17. Some very curious information connected with the Lancashire men in this battle is given by Mr. Corser in his notes to that Poem.

504 *Christopher Savadge.*] Son of Sir John Savage of Clifton. Edmund or Edward, another son, was knighted at Leith, 1544. — Ormerod, vol. i. p. 526.

506 *John Lawrens.*] Named in Hall. A family of this name were seated in the north of Lancashire; some notice of them will be found in the *Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. ii. p. 441.

528 *Sir Henry Kighley.*] This family appears to have been especially attached to the Stanleys.

530 *Sir Thomas Jarred.*] Gerard of the Bryn, ancestor of the present Sir Robert Gerard of Garswood.

532 *Sir William Molynex.*] Of Sefton. See *Proceedings of the Historical Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, vol. ii. pp. 164, 249.

546 *The standart of St. Tandere.*] It should be of St. Cuthbert, under which the troops of the Bishopric fought. There is an account of it, and also of the Scotch standard which was taken to Durham, in the *Rites of the Cathedral of Durham*, published by the Surtees Society.

611 *Brankstone.*] The MS. has *brymstone*, which, if a joke, is a very bad one.

637 *Many a wee wanted his horse,*
and wandered home on fote.] "And the nyghte after many men lost there horses and such stoffe as they left in there tentes and pavilyons by the robbers of Tyndale and Tividale." — Hall's *Chron.* p. 564.

GLOSSARY.

ATTILDE, 217, 447, past tense of attil, to design, prepare. *Unto Itaill we attil.*—*Gawin Douglas.*

AWNTER, 70. To adventure.

BEHAPPEN, 50; HAPPEN, 255. Befall, betide.

BELIVE, 280, 303. Soon, immediately.

BETEN, 418. Kindled.

BLANCKED, 466. Made them blench?

BRAID, 234; BRADE, 474. Attack, assault.

BRAYED, BRAYDEN, 208, 434. Made a noise.

BRIUCK, 611. Brook.

BURNE, 212, *sæpe*, Man, warrior; BARNE, 497, Baron?

BUSHED, 439. Error for busked, got ready.

CARPED, 4, 22, 49, 64. Spoke.

CHICKE, 470. Check.

CLOES, 354; CLOWES, 592. Valleys, dells, cloughs.—Clewis, *Gawin Douglas.*

COME, 1, 303, 306. Came; *Lanc.* coom.

COSTEN, 326. To coast, pass, go?

DAYLED, 345. Error for rayled? Strayed, *Halliwell.*

DAYNED, 204, 422. Dawned.

DEDEN, 197. Did.

DEYRED, 574. To dere, to hurt.

DERE, 81. Noble.

DERFFE, 469. Strong, vigorous.

DOLVEN, 19. Dug.

EGILL FEETE, 324. Eagles' feet.

EPE, 297, 375, 491, 551. This word does not appear in the Glossaries, but is probably the same as the Northumberland *Yap*, which Brockett defines *apt, quick*, and says, "Saxon Gep, astutus. In Pierce Plowman I find Yep, which Dr. Whitaker considers of the same origin, and explains in the sense of alert and vigorous." Yepely (of Geaplic, *Sax.*) cunningly, wisely.—*Bailey.* Both Etmuller and Bosworth take *Geap* in a bad sense, crooked, deceitful, but are hardly supported by their references.

FAREN, *sæpe*. To fare, go.

FELDEN, 471. Felled, made to fall.

FETTELED, FETELED, 223, 325, 419, 585. Prepared, got ready. The common local meaning of fettle is to mend, or set right.

FINDE, 598. Fiend.

FLOWE, 319. Flew.

FOTHIR, 39. The meaning seems to be that many a huge heap of stones that had never been stirred before, fell at the first shot.

FREKE, FREAKE, *sæpe*. Man; used as a term of contempt by Gawin Douglas.

FUERSE, FUIRSE, FUERSEMEN, FUERSLIE, 106, 310, 406, 495, 543, 538, 635. Proud, fierce, furious.

GIRDE, 42; GURDING, 456. To push.—*Wilbraham's Chesh. Glossary.*

GOME, 108. Man; *Saxon* ȝuma.

HALCHED, 52. Halliwell has Halche, to loop or fasten.—*Gawayne.*

HARLOTTES, 277. Applied to men in Chaucer and Pierce Plowman.—See *Wright's Glossary.*

HATELL, 330. Noble, of gentle blood.

HEAPE, 220. Troop.

HEETE, HETE, *sæpe*. To tell, to promise.

HYNDE, 501. Courteous.

JEST, 641, GEST. *Lat.* gesta; applied to metrical romances.

KERE, KYRED, 165, 240, 505. To return; *Saxon.*

KETTERICKES, 120, 127, 512. Caterans, highlanders.

KINDNES, 625. Clerical error for highness.

LAYKE, 569. Strife of battle, sport.—*Saxon.*

LEEDES, LEDES, LEDDES, 73, &c. People, sing., man, lad.

LETEES, 28. Error for leedes.

LOSSE, 482. Honor, praise.

LOTTE, 135. Halliwell has Lotien, to lay in ambush; and Lowte, to be quiet.

MACHED, 259. Matched.

MAKLES, 394. Peerless, makeless.

MARKETH, 149. Marcheth.

MEANE, 138. Halliwell has "to go lamely.—*North.*"

MEANEY, 2, &c. Followers, troops, company.

MISLNERS, 77. Millers.

At home is left none in the land
But joulthead monks and bursten friars.
* * * *
Or priests prating for pudding shives,
Or *millners* madder than their mulls.
Weber, 187.

MOUNTENANCE, 202. For mountance, amount, distance.

NEDEN, 199. They must *need* abide.

NIGHED, 198. Drew nigh.

OR, 25, 355. Before.

PERTLY, 109, 252. Openly.

PIKED, 53. Stole away. "*Sithie, he's pyking off.*" See thou, he is stealing away.—*Chesh.*

PRESTE, 228. Ready.

PROCHED, 460. Approached.

RADLY, 201, 214, 300, 417. Quickly, readily.

REPE, 296. Error for epe?

RAYKED, 193, 409. Rushed, advanced.

And ryght as Robarts men
Raken about.—*Pierce Plowman's Creed.*

REWARDE, 362, 402, 408; WARD, 371. Rearguard.

RINCKE, RYNCKE, 200, 308, 416, 496, Soldier, warrior.—*Saxon* ɲinc.

SEENE. Saw.

SEDGE, 23, 39, besiege; 48, siege; 113, &c., spearman, warrior.

SHALMES, 450. Fifes?

SHOGGETH, 94. To jog, to vacillate to and fro.—*Bailey.*

SITT, 142. Set.

SKATELL, 342. Scathful, scathliche? pernicious.

SKATH, 343; SCATHE, 297. Hurt, damage, mischief.

SKETER, 513. Scatter.

SKOCHEN, 218. Scotch, stop, hinder.

SOULKIN, 627. Mass for the soul, requiem?

SOUGHE, 440. Shaw, wood?

SOUTHE, 251. Sooth.

STARLISCHE, 196, probably for Scarlishe, affrightened.

STEDE, 526; STIDDE, 549. Place.

STEPE, 299. *Stipes*, a branch?

SWAPPING, 465, 468. Swapped; to strike.

SWYRE, 484, 501. Esquire.

SYKE, 387. Sigh.

TABERETTES, 35. Drums?

TALE, 149, 186, 594. Count.

TELDEN, 38. To place a tent.

And ten thousand of tentes
Teldit beside.—*Pierce Plowman.*

TITHINDES, 241; TITHANDES, 618. Tidings.

UMCLOSED, 268. Closed round about.

UNMETTE, 188. Unmeetly, unequally.

UTTERED, 458. Drew out.

WALE, 385. Courageous, choice, good?

WEE, 294, &c. Man.

WEEDE, 16, 116. Dress, armour; 537, error for *wee.*

WEETE, 6. To wit, to know.

WELDE, 30, &c. To wield, govern.

WERE, 86. Wee? man.

WITTIE, 181. Knowing; perhaps equivalent to *epe* supra.

WREKE, 256. To avenge.

WYNDE, 25, 99, 353. To wend, go.

YERDED, 647. Dwelt.

YORNE, 570; pl. of yore? Ready, eager.

Examynatyons

TOWCHEYNGE

COKEYE MORE

TEMP. HEN. VIII.

IN A DISPUTE BETWEEN THE LORDS OF THE MANORS OF MIDDLETON AND RADCLYFFE.

WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES.

COMMUNICATED BY
THE REV. F. R. RAINES, M.A., F.S.A.,
RURAL DEAN, HON. CANON OF MANCHESTER,
AND INCUMBENT OF MILNROW.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.
M.DCCC.LV.

EXAMYNATYONS TOWCHEYNGE COKEYE MORE, TEMP. HEN. VIII.

Introductory Observations.

It is to be regretted that there is no date to this curious Record, which is partly written on both sides of two long sheets of coarse paper, fastened together by strong thread. The writing is clearly that of the early part of the reign of Henry VIII., and the document was found in the Muniment Room at Middleton Hall. From the dispute to which it refers having arisen previous to the death of John Radclyffe Esq. in 1513, and being continued in the lifetime of John, son of Roger Radclyffe, who died a minor in 1518, as well as prior to the attainment of knighthood by Richard Assheton, it may be safely inferred that these depositions were made about 1514 or 1515.

The history of commons — of pasture, fishing, estovers, turbary, &c., with its divisions into common in gross, appendant, appurtenant, and pur cause de vicinage, is a wide subject, and need not be introduced here except to mention that this dispute seems to have arisen out of the last named, by reason of neighbourhood, being a liberty which the tenants of one lord in one township had to common with the tenants of another lord in an adjoining town-

ship. The tenants of Middleton and Radcliffe had been accustomed, time out of mind, to have common promiscuously in both lordships, being contiguous and open to one another; but the property of the soil of Cockey Moor seems to have been, perhaps, altogether vested in the lord of Middleton. See Jacob's *Law Dict.* in voce *Common.*

The verdict of the Attorney General and Jurors, who were all magistrates and influential men in the county, and closely connected by family ties with both the disputants, has not been recorded; but as there are no evidences relative to the litigation remaining in the court of the Duchy of Lancaster, and as the township of Ainsworth continued to be parcel of the Manor of Middleton and passed with a coheiress of the last Sir Ralph Assheton to an ancestor of the Earl of Wilton, the present owner, it may be fairly assumed that the decision was in favour of Mr. Assheton.

It is just probable that the claim of the Radcliffes was not quite destitute of foundation nor unrecognized by the jurors, as at this day a small extent of land, being a plantation of fifty or a hundred acres, within the parish of Radcliffe, is called Cockey Moor, having been originally part of the common and adjoining the small hamlet of Starling in the township of Elton in the parish of Bury, being on the east side of the moor. This plot formerly belonged to the Radcliffes of Radcliffe.

The litigation, however, respecting Cockey Moor, did not terminate with these "Examynatyons," as, in the 3rd Edward VI. (1549,) Richard Assheton prosecuted in the Duchy court Robert Aynsworth and others for trespassing on grounds called "Cokkamore," in Aynsworth in Middleton (*Cal. Plead.* p. 232). In the same year and in the same court, Robert Aynsworth and others, tenants of Aynsworth, prosecuted John Harper respecting a disputed right of common on Cokkey more waste in Middleton (*Ibid.* p. 262). The various feuds and disputed claims respecting the commons, with the riots, assaults, and rescues which arose out of them, were, during the first half of the sixteenth century, a fruitful

source of emolument for the lawyers and of anxiety to the litigants, as the Duchy Records abundantly evince.

Richard Assheton, involved in this dispute, was an eminent man, and his name is still fragrant in his native village. He distinguished himself by his bravery and valour at Flodden, and by his piety and munificence in rebuilding the Church of Middleton. He added considerably to his paternal estate, retained the royal favour and his country's gratitude, avoided the pilgrimage of grace, embraced the reformed faith, and, dying in a good old age 2 Edward VI.[1] escaped the persecutions of the next reign. It might seem that he did not obtain his spurs in gentle Surrey's camp, and yet his chivalry must have won the prize on Flodden Field.

On the death of John Radclyffe Esq. unmarried and a minor, 28th August 1518, anno 9 Henry VIII. the ancient inheritance passed to Robert Radclyffe, Lord Fitzwalter, afterwards Earl of Sussex.

There is something characteristic of the times in the various services imposed upon the humble sons of the Church here named by the several Rectors. The parish priest and chantry priest obtained their eggs and garlic, their poor John and haberdine, by the discharge of laborious duties, which the patron's son, dwelling, in Scripture phraseology, "amongst his own people," might deem incompatible with gentle blood and academic lore; but which the canons and constitutions of the Church and the rugged simplicity of the age considered to be in harmony with a profession of religious poverty, and not unbecoming in men who undertook to secure the repose of dead priests and to provide for the ease and dignity of living ones. It would be interesting to know the relative merits and accomplishments of these two wealthy Rectors and their sacerdotal assistants, especially of Assheton, the son of the patron of the living, and of Isherwood, the parish priest for thirty-seven years; the latter devoted to a life of active piety,

[1] "Syr Rychard Assheton, Knyght, xiiii. Januarij, 2 Edw. vj." — *Register of Burials, Middleton.*

and the former the kinsman of belted knights with "spotless shields," and the associate of laurelled warriors, squires, and yeomen erewhile rejoicing in the "form and force" of English bows and quivers, and not unacquainted with the dazzling splendours of the Court. His position and wealth would fit him for achieving apostolic triumphs amongst the more influential of his parishioners, whilst the pastoral staff and wallet, the devoted life, and, it may be hoped, blameless character of the venerable parish priest, would be appreciated by the rude and honest people of Cockey, and thus bring honour to his frock and a blessing upon the diocese. But a great crisis was at hand, the dawn of which had been long foreseen — and probably at Middleton.

EXAMYNATYONS taken att Mydleton in the Cōy of Lancast[R] affore M[R]. Heskethe lerned in the Lawes towcheynge Cokeye more

Ex parte Aynsworthe.

RYC. HESKETTH

Deposon ꝙ informacōn a for M[t][1] Alexand[r] Radcliff Robart Longley Robart Dokynfeld Edm̃nde Assheton Thurstan Tyllysley Bertylmewe Holcroft Esqwyers and many oy[e]

Ffyrst that the said tretors shall take to theym whom yay lyst to Rede the Euidence of both the ptez of y[e] bovnds of the townez of Anysworth and allso of Radclyff

It. that the said tretors w[t] sych consell as thay thinke mete w[t] thaym examyn all sych wyttenessez on ay[r][2] of the said ptez seu̓ally ychond[3] by theym selfe to shew what thay can y[t] is to say all sych wittnez as is brōth[4] afor thaym by M[t] Assheton to depose where the bonds of Anysworth exp̄sed[5] in the euydenc of M[t] Assheton be ꝙ therto sett the newe marks ꝙ tokynes ꝙ so to bonde how feere the town[6] or hamell of Anysworth extends ꝙ where[7] all Cokaymore or what pcell there of Is wythyn the said bonds or pcell or belongyng to Anysworth afor said

It. that lyke ordur be takyn to ꝑve how fferr the bonds of the towne of Radclyff extendyth ꝙ wythere y[t] xx ac̃s of pastur In the forest of totyngton speciffied In the euydences of M[t] Radcliff be any pcell of Cokeymore or not

[1] M[t], an abbreviation of Master. [2] either. [3] each one. [4] brought. [5] expressed. [6] township. [7] whether.

Ir. that both the pteys bryng afore the said tretors all sych euydencez & oy[ꝑ][1] thynges as thay will abyde opon for there ꝑtey wtowt fforther deleye & no more euydence& aftward to be schewde thochyng[2] the p[ꝑ].[3]

Md. that the said Awarders chose to theym Thom"s Howreden lernyd in the lawe and mette opon the said ground & causyd the said Ryc. Assheton to bryng forth his wyttenez & recordez wyche the said Ryc Broght [viz.] xiiite [men] wyche knewe the meyrez and bonds of the said Townez as it hath ben vsyd & costomyd syth the tyme owt of mynd wyche namez aperyth aft[ꝑ] that is to wyt (md yt non of thes mē are dwyllyng wtin ye towne of Medulton nor Anysworth)

[4] Rauff Brygge of the age of lxx 3er&
Johñ Cay the son of Thom"s Cay of ye age of lxxiiii 3er&
Wyll"m Saund[ꝑ]son of the age of lxvi 3er&
Jamys Anysworth of the age of lxxxi 3er&
Jamys Crompton of the age of lxx 3er&
Johñ Crompton of the age of lx 3er&
Elys Cay of the age of lxxvi 3er&
Laurens Lomal"s of the age of lxx 3er&
Elys Holt of the age of lvj 3er&
Rauff Cay of Wedell of ye age of lxxii 3er&
Thom"s Cay of the age of lii 3er&
Edm̃nde Grenhaghe of ye age of lxii 3er&
Pers ffletcher of the age of lxiiii yer&

Wherof the said Awarders chose vi of these wittenez yt is to wytt for Ryc. Assheton ptey

Willi"m Saund'son of the p̄ch of Bolton and of the age of lxvi 3er&
Johñ Crompton of ye p̄ch of ye Dayne & of ye age of lx 3er&
Jamys Crompton of ye p̄ch of Bolton and of ye age of lxxx 3er&
Elys Cay of the p̄ch of Bury & of ye age of lxxvi 3er&

[1] other. [2] touching. [3] premises.

[4] Many of these individuals are mentioned amongst the tenants of Sir Thomas Pilkington of Bury, Knt., in deeds dated 9 Hen. VI., 13 Hen. VI., 16 Hen. VI.—*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxxviii. pp. 5, 7, 11.

Jamys Anysworth of ye pch of Bolton of ye age of lxxxi 3er
Lawrens Lomat"s of ye pch of Bolton of ye age of lxx 3er
All these sworne opon a boke afor Alexand[9] Radclyff Robart longley Thom"s Howreden lerned in ye lawe Robart Dokynfeld Edmnde Assheton Thurstã Tyllisley Bertilmew Holcroft Esqwyers to leyde the meyre3 truly betwene Anyswõth & Radcliff

Md. that is to be knawn that the said vi men ledde these mayre3 foloyng opon thayre owthe3[1] that is to wytt begynnyng att ye carlyll mosse betwene Radcliff & Anysworth & so foloyng the mayre3 vnto Ryngley Hey & so to Ryngley Yate & so vnto Ryngley yorte[2] & so foloyng ryngley yorte vnto a hegge[3] & a dyche wych depte3[4] Aynsworth & Bradshaw & so vnto the cornell[5] of a hegge wych deptys Bury & Anysworth so that now[6] pcell of Cokeymore was in Radcliff

Which is called now wtin Radcliff.

And also these said vi men schende[7] opon theyre owghte3 afor the said awarders yt att ye said cornell of the hegge hard besyde the howse of Johñ Opynshaw metys iii picħe3[8] yt is to wit Medulton pch Bury pch & Radcliff pche so yt a mã may sett a iii fotyd stole in eu pich a fote & so thay myght do in ii oy[9] place3 of Anysworth and so thay shewid opon thayre owghte3 yt yay neu knew ner neu herd tell But that all Cockeymore was in Anysworth wtin ye pich of Medulton and no pt of hit in Radcliff pich & yt yay wold take opon thare charge as yay wold make unsware at the drefull day of dome

Md. that I Sr Oluy[9] Issherwode beyng pische pst[9] of Medilton xxxviite yers depose testifye & recorde I so long tyme beyng yer[10] so mony yere3 was commandet xvte yere3 togethur beyng pische pste to Syr John Barton

[1] oaths. [2] yort, a field. *Lanc. Gloss.* [3] hedge. [4] departs, i.e. separates. [5] corner; see Halliwell *in voce.* [6] no. [7] *sen*, say; *send*, said; the word is still used. [8] parishes.

[9] The duty of a Parish Priest before the Reformation was not to preach but to attend to the offices of the Church, to hear confessions, to absolve the penitent, to visit the sick, and to bury the dead. Isherwood seems to have been a Curate, and the Rectors whom he served probably took little duty themselves. It is the same still on the Continent. — See Wordsworth's *Notes at Paris*, p. 121, 12mo, 1854.

[10] there.

ꝑson of the same opon tuseday in the secunde weke of cleyne lenton[1] to syt att Radcliff' church to here confession of the crystyn pepull of the hamell of Aynsworth ꝙ aftr his dissesse I was then admittyd to the same ꝟvice wt Mt Edm̄nde Assheton now beyng ꝑson of Medulton xxiith yere3 ꝙ in these yeres afor sayd I have had eu̓ wt me a ꝑste or tow ꝙ most in especiall Sr Laurens Smyth cheantre ꝑst of Medilton wt oy̓ gud ꝑsts that we cheasse[2] to helpe me at such seasons/ this tyme was in the dayes and lyff' of Syr Olyu̓ Smethurst Syr John Byndeglas Syr Thom"s Blaclaw Syr Hugh Radcliff' and Roger Longworth[3] all these beyng ꝑsons of Radcliff' oon aftr a nother in my tyme the lords of Radclif in these yere3 I beyng here at Medilton were named Jamys Radcliff' Johñ Radcliff' his son Ric. Radclif the son of John Senr and John brother to the said Ric. ꝙ now John the son of Rog̓[4]

[1] Clean-Lent, or the spring cleansing. Halliwell quotes a ballad, by Elderton, on *Lenton Stuff*, beginning —

"Lenton stuff ys cum to the towne,
The clensynge weeke cums quicklye:
You knowe well inowghe yow must kneele downe,
Cum on, take asshes tryckly,
That nether are good fleshe nor fishe,
But dyp with Judas in the dyshe,
And keepe a rowte not worthe a ryshe."

MS. Ashmole, 48, f. 115.

[2] We chose, i.e. the Rector and the deponent.

[3] None of these Rectors occur in Baines's Catalogue of the Rectors of Radcliffe. In the 4th Hen. VI. (1425) Christopher le Walker was Rector of Radcliffe. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xxiv. p. 297.

[4]

Agnes, daughter of —— Euby. = James Radclyffe of Radclyffe Esq. son and heir 20 Hen. VI. living 17 Ed. IV. 1477. = Cecilia, widow of Sir John Leycester of Tableigh co. Cestr. Knt. 2nd wife.

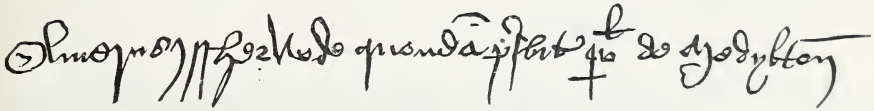
John Radcliffe, son and heir. = Isabel, daughter of Hugh Tildesley of Tildesley Esq.

Elizab., d. of Nicholas Byron of Clayton Esq. =	Richard Radclyffe Esq. son and heir, settled his estates by will 15 H. VII. s.p. =	Alice, dau. of Sr Rd Assheton of Middleton Knt. She ob. 1531.	John Radclyffe Esq. æt. 40 16 H. VII. ob. 5 H. VIII. s.p.l.	Roger Radclyffe Esq. liv. 20 Jan. 16 H. VII. ob. ante 4th April 5 H. VIII. =

John Radclyffe of Radclyffe Esq. son and heir, born about 1499, ob. unmarried 28 Aug. 1518, anno 9 Henry VIII.

all these lordeȝ of Radclif in my tyme thus I comyng opon tuseday[1] next aftr palme Sonday to Radclif & yᵉ[2] herde the Confessiõ of the said crystyn pepull of Anysworth & yᵉ mynystret to thaym the blest Sacrament of the Awt̃[3] & at such seyson had wᵗ me at all tymes my Mayst̃s proctors[4] to reseyue my maist̃s dutȩ[5] of all the hamell of Anysworth & in these yers & in my tyme I neu̅ herde nõ of all these psons afor said aske clayme ne no mā in thayre name no dutȩ tethes emolimẽts that comys or rises by the grace of god in Anysworth & cokkey more bot hit was payd to my mayst̃s psons of Medilton Sr John Barton & Mᵗ Edm̃nde Assheton wᵗ owte any exceptiõ or clayme or any tytill tyll this new late discorde fell betwene Mᵗ Assheton of Medilton and Mᵗ Radclif of Radclif also I neu̅ herde tell in my dayes yᵗ nõ of these lordeȝ of Radclif a bowe[6] rehersyd neu̅ made clayme ne tytyll to Cokkey more at no tyme ne neu̅ occupyd nothyng yᵉ bot be[7] lycence of the Lords of Medilton & that I haue deposed afor Laurens Starky Mᵗ Snayde Mᵗ Blondẽ and mony other psons beyng p̃sent the same tyme and this I wyll abyde by as a true prest oȝght for to doe

(Signed)



[1] Shrove Tuesday, the beginning of Quadragesima or the Lent Fast, was the most solemn season for receiving the auricular confession of the penitent's sins, and of imposing penances prior to absolution; but the same discipline seems to have been customarily observed here on Tuesday in Passion Week.

[2] there. [3] The Sacrifice of the Mass, or Holy Communion.

[4] Proctors — procurators, the bailiffs or collectors of the fruits of a benefice for another.

[5] Duties, not only the customary Lent offerings called Quadragesimal or Easter dues, but also such of the tithes and oblations as were at that season due to the mother church.

[6] above. [7] but by.

Md. that I Sr laurenc Smyth chauntre ꝑst at Medilton xxxvith yeres past beyng now of the age of lxxiiiith yeres beyng pỹshe ꝑst at Radclif xvth wekes & may remembur well when Sr John Bendeglas was ꝑson of Radclif & aftr hym Sr Thomas Blaclawe Sr Hugh Radcliff & Sr Roger Longworth all these beyng ꝑsons of Radcliff oon aft a nother in my tyme of Remembrance and contenually I have laburyd wt the ꝑish ꝑste of Medulton to sit upon confescion wt hym euy yere oon tweseday next aftur palme Sonday at all tymys my Maists procto's [went] to reseyue my maists duet& of all the hamell off Anysworth & Cokkey more In the[1] yere3 & in my tyme I neu herd non of all these ꝑsons afor said clayme ne no man in thayr name no duet& tethes emolimnt& that comys or rysys be the grace of god in Anysworth & Cokkey bot hit was payd to Mt ꝑson of Medilton Sr John Barton & Mt Edm̄nde Assheton wt owte any exception or clayme or tytill tyll this newe late discorde fell betwene Mt Assheton of Medilton & Mt Radcliff of Radcliff Also I neu herd tell in my dayes that non of these Lords of Radcliffe a boue rehersyd neu made clayme ne tytyll to Cokkey more at no time ne neu occupyd there bot be lycence of the lords of Medilton and that I wyll depose and[2] I shuld dept owte of this world

(Signed)

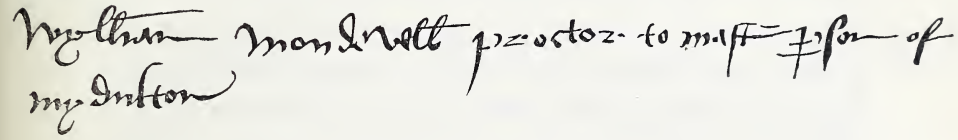
Md that I Wylli"m Mandevell beyng sruand xxii yere3 & proctor of Medilton xxth yere3 depose testefye & recorde yt I have reseyuid all man of duet& ꝑtenyng to Anysworth & Cokkey more in the ꝑishe Church of Radcliff tyll the vareans was betwene Mt Assheton of Medilton and Mt Radcliff of Radcliff and syne then at the Chapell of Cokkey more[3]

[1] these. [2] even if.

[3] This is the earliest mention of Cockey Chapel yet discovered. When Bishop Gastrell styled it "very ancient," he probably meant that it had existed prior to the

theyre resayuyng to M^{t} Edm̃nde Assheton pson of Medilton all man̄ of thethes as calf colt lambe swarme faleyng be the grace of god on the said more w^{t} all man̄ of duetϱ nothyng except ϱ that no pson of Radclif ne no man in his name neu̅ claymyd non sych thyngs ϱ that I wyll testefye recorde and depose apon a boke yff nede requyre syth the yere$\mathfrak{z}$ aboffe said

(Signed)



Reformation. It was originally a Chantry with an endowment, probably erected for the use of the tenants of the manerial Lords of Middleton, and for the benefit of the Lords themselves. — *Notitia Cest.*, vol ii. part i. p. 105, and *Notes*.

THE EXAMINACION of Witnesse in the matᵗ of trauᵛse betwene Ric. Assheton Squyer opon the one ꝑtie and John Radcliff Squyer opon that oyᵛ ꝑtie afowre Ryc. Esketh concernyng the title of yᵉ comyn pasture & turbere opon Cokkey more for the ꝑtie of the seid Ric. Assheton

James Openshawe of the age of lxxv ȝerꝭ examynt opon a boke seyeth that he knaweth that Sʳ Rauff Assheton Sʳ Ric. Assheton & Ric. Assheton haue ben peseably possessed & seased of yᵉ seid Cokkeymore now in trauᵛse and yᵗ the tenᵃnts of the seid John Radcliff nor none of yaim neu hade nor occupyed comyn pasture nor turbare opon the seid more bot yf it were by lycence of yᵉ said Sʳ Rauff Sʳ Ric. or Ric. or sum of thayme except it were prevely[1] that the said Sʳ Rauff Sʳ Ric. & Ric. nor yair tenᵃnts hade now knawlege yᵛof and forther he seyeth that all the calues coltez & lambez that haue bene calued foled or lambet opon the seid more haue bene tythet to yᵉ ꝑson of Medulton for the tyme beyng And that the hyuez that now stand or haue stonden opon the Intak now in the holdyng of me the said James haue ben in likewise tithed to the said ꝑson of Medulton And eu that he seyeth that the tenᵃnts of the said Sʳ Rauff Sʳ Ric. & Ric. haue yerely drywen[2] the catell beyng on the said more & the tenᵃnts of the said John Radcliff nor none of his auncesterz neu medelt yᵛwᵗ.

George Kirkman Edm̃nd Grenehalgh Elys Bothe John Bradley & John Harp exament opon a boke deposen & sayen that all the sayings & deposicions of the seid James Openshawe ben true

[1] privily.

[2] Commons were required by the 32d Henry VIII. c. 13, to be driven yearly at Michaelmas, or within fifteen days after; but the custom had long existed.

THE EXAMINACION of Wyttenesse in the mat̄ of travesse betwyxe Ryc. Assheton of Medulton esquier opon that on̄ pty & John Radclyff of Radclyff esquier opon that oy̆ pty

John Hasnall of the age of lxxv 3er& examynet opon a boke saythe that he was borne in Anysworth & and dwellyd theyre l 3er& or he went thense & syth he come to Reyson & Reyson had he neŭ knewe ne neŭ herd tell that now[1] Lord of Radcliff neŭ made clayme ne tytyll to Cokkeymore ne neŭ occupyed there but by lycens of the lord of Medulton but now on late tyme/ Also the said John sayt that he hath ben at the dryvyng of the said More oftyn tymes & thay of Bury hath met thaym at boremā dych & they of Radclyff nor non of thaym neŭ medulyt there w^t^/ Also the said John sayth that yf thay of Bury fond[2] any of Radclyff bests thay pendyt[3] thaym in bury fold[4] and yf we of Anysworth fond any best& of Radclyff we pendyt thaym in Anysworth fold & thay were glad to borow thaym by licens and so Bury & we neŭ pendyt nowther other but droffe the bests oŭ the dych agayn & on a tyme the said John Remebers well that he & John Crompton & other were at the dryvyng of the said More & there sū caprils[5] of Radclyf y^t^ were wyld & wold not be dryven & were droff ij of thaym into a myrs3e[6] & on̄ of thaym was maid[7] & drownyd in the said myrs3e and neŭ non of Radclyf askyt no mend& for it and thus I wyll make gud as a trewe mā ought to do

George Kyrkemā of the age of lxvj 3er& & was borne in Anysworth & his ffather afor hym wyche was callyd Ely Kyrkemā & was of the age of lxxxj 3ere or he deyd sayth that he nor hys father afor hym herd neŭ tell neŭ knew that any of the Lords of Radclif had any Ryght ne

[1] no. [2] found. [3] impounded. [4] pinfold.

[5] Caprils were probably wild goats; although the term "wild" is commonly applied in the neighbourhood to any unmanageable animal. They were not beasts of the forest, chace, or warren.

[6] marsh. [7] mad.

neu̅ made tytyll nor clayme to the said more but occupyed by lycens ꝙ that John Openshawe that ded is boroyd[1] hys bestꝙ by a bo̅rgh[2] ꝙ a wedde[3] ꝙ ꝑmysed to trespas no more ꝙ laurens Alyns Hugh Herdmā ꝙ Jamys Herdmā all these had theyre bests pendyt in Anysworth ꝙ come to the fold of Anysworth ꝙ boroyd by lycens ꝙ promysed to hold thayre best ꝙ be syde the more amoneth or vj weks afor Elys bothe John Harꝑ Thomas Anysworth John Bradley ꝙ other ꝙ that there was neu̅ ȝate[4] come vp to cokkey more owte of Radclyff but a letull fleke[5] that was for the most part teyed fast vntyll now on late tyme thys waryens[6] fell ꝙ thys I wyll make gud as a true man oȝght to do

And also the said George Kirkmā sayth that he may Remembur that the lords of Medulton and thayre ten̄nts hath ymproyed[7] thaym ꝙ taken owte of cokkeymore iiii intakks[8] ꝙ so is occupyed at thys day as seu̅all[9] ꝙ that neu̅ no lord of Radclyf medult therewt And also that he Rememburs that John Opynschay that was the suñe of Decon Opynschay oy̅wyse callyd Ryc. Opynschay desyred the said George apon a tyme to goe to the lord of Medulton to get hym lycens for to take in half a nacre of cokkeymore for to socure[10] hys howse from the bests of the More that wold rub downe the woys[11]

Willm̄ Hepe off ye age off lx zerꝙ saythe yt opon xxte ȝerꝙ past he jorneyd to Radclyf to bye besse ꝙ mett wt Jamys Herdman and Robt Alens ꝙ

[1] From boꝛꝛeh, *A. S.*, to bail. [2] A boꝛꝧh, *A. S.*, a surety.
[3] A peƀƀe, *A. S.*, a pledge. [4] gate.
[5] A flake is a paling or hurdle, a temporary gate or door. — Halliwell *in voce.*
[6] Doubtless the variance almost led to *war.* [7] improved.
[8] Inclosures from the common.
[9] That is a portion of common assigned for a term to a particular proprietor, the other commoners waiving for the time their right of common over it. — Hunter on *Shakspeare,* vol. i. p. 267; Halliwell's *Dictionary,* vol. ii. p. 724. Nares, however, assigns the precise meaning here given to the word: "an enclosed pasture as opposed to an open field or common." — *In voce* SEVERAL.
[10] secure.
[11] walls, built of clay or timber, or both united. "Woys" is still the true vernacular.

sayd to theym y^{t} thay [had] affeyr[1] ease off kokkey mor to put ther besse[2] on ꝯ the seyd Jame$\overline{3}$ ꝯ Rob^{t} seyd they hade hit bot by lycens

ffor Kockay More — *ex parte Radclyffe.*

Ryc L$\bar{u}$mals of the eygh[3] of lxxxxiii [93] $\overline{3}$er says the Lord [of] Radclyff and hys tenands have ocupyett e$\bar{u}$ cokkey mor tyme owtte of mynd uentyll the tyme on Ryc. barton y^{t} was lord [of] medylton mad a p$\bar{y}$fold on cokkey more and p$\bar{y}$nyd the besse of the tenands of Radclyff And Jamys Radclyff y^{t} was att y^{t} tyme lord of Radclyff sends his son and his heyr to breyke the fold and to take owte thayre bests/ And theyn by the space of xxx $\overline{3}$er ꝯ mor ytt was occupyett pleysable tyll the tyme that S^{r} Ryc. Assheton late lord [of] medylton ꝯ Ryc. Assheton now lord of medylton mad tytyll vnto the afforsayd cokkey mor

Also y^{e} afforsayd Ryc. says y^{t} xxx $\overline{3}$er ꝯ past S^{r} Ryc. Assheton mad tytyll to Radclyff mor cald the qwytte mosse and cokkey mor And theyn the afforsayd S^{r} Ryc. Assheton lord of medylton ꝯ Ryc. Radclyff lord of Radcl$\bar{y}$f were bound$\bar{e}$ by oblygacyon to abyde the dome ꝯ the awarde of S^{r} John bothe knyth ꝯ lord of barton ꝯ Wyllya Radclyff lord of Ordsall as towchyng the morys afforsayd/ And so the aforsayd Awarders mett on the qwytte mosse in Radclyff and theyn ytt was meyrytt and awardett that thay shuld occupye cokkey mor as thay had down affortyme

Also the sayd Ryc. says y^{t} o$\bar{n}$ Ryc. Opynscha heyr of the schae toke a encrochementt on cokkey mor w^{t} y^{e} lycens off John Radclyff

[1] To affear or affeer, from *affier*, an old law term for to settle or confirm; hence *afferers* were a sort of manerial arbiters, whose business was to affirm upon oath what penalty they thought should be adjudged for certain offences not settled by law. The word occurs in the statute 25th Edward III. c. 7. Jacob gives the form of oath used in the Courts Leet and Baron by the affeerer. *Dict. in voce.* Nares, *ibid.*

[2] The vernacular plural of beast, and still pronounced *b$\bar{e}$as.* [3] age.

lord of Radclyff and the sayd Ryc. Opynscha occupyett the sayd encrochementt by the space of xx^{t} ȝer And theyn Jhon hys son occupyett hytt hys tyme and theyn on̄ Jam^{s} Opynscha dwellyng ī eynysworth[1] a brother of the afforesayd John occupyett ytt by the space of iii or iiij ȝer$\wp$ beyng nott heyr/ And on̄ John Opynscha beyng heyr and owtte off the contre att y^{e} warres heyring tell y^{t} hys uncull John and hys fether wer^{9} ded came home and claymett hys land and the afforeseyd Jam^{s} wold not suffur hym to occupye ytt ne to haue dedys[2] hentyll the tyme he was agrett w^{t} all/ And y^{e} afforsayd Johñ gaffe vnto the afforsayd Jamys a ꝑcell of money and gaff hym lycens to occupye y^{e} afforseyd encrochementt and to sett in hys hywes[3] and now y^{e} lord of medylton claymes ytt for hys owne

Also the sayd Ryc. says that Cokkey mor hath beyn occupyett w^{t} y^{e} tenands of Radclyff w^{t} turber^{9} to gyff and sell att thayr pleysur and to comyn pastur w^{t} all thayr bests

Also the theȝythes[4] that hath newytt[5] on̄ the forsayd mor as fowle calfe lambe and wole w^{t} all other thyngs thȝyable[6] hath beyn gyffen vnto the ꝑson of Radclyff and so ȝett[7] ytt is occupyett

Wyllyã Schosmyth of y^{e} egh of lxxiii ȝer$\wp$ says y^{t} John Radclyff y^{t} was lord of Radclyff xxx^{t} ȝer$\wp$ past gaffe lycens vnto on̄ old Ryc. Opynscha y^{t} was heyr of the Scha to take a encrochementt on Cokkey mor^{9} and ther in to sett hys hywes[8]/ the afforsayd Wyllyã was by att the same time

Also y^{e} afforesayd Wyllyã says y^{t} on̄ John Opynscha the qwich was heyr vnto the afforesayd Ryc occupyett the afforesayd encrochementt xv^{te} ȝer^{9} and deptyd[9] w^{t}owte yssẽwe

[1] Ainsworth. [2] title deeds. [3] hives. [4] tithes.
[5] This word does not occur in Nares or Halliwell. It means arisen, accrued, or become due, although its etymon is doubtful.
[6] titheable. [7] yet. [8] hives. [9] departed — died.

And oñ Jamys Opynscha dwellyng in Aynysworth brother of the afforsayd John occupyett the land beyng not heyr by y^e^ space of iii or iiii ȝer And John Opynscha beying heyr and in[1] the contre heyryng tell y^t^ hys grandfather ꝙ father wer̄ ded came into the contre and claymett hys land/ the afforesayd Jamys wold nott suffur hym to occupye hys land ne to haue his dedys vnto the tyme he was agrett w^t^ all/ And then the forsayd John gaff vnto the afforsayd Jamys a ꝑcell of money to haue hys lands and deds/ And gaff him lycens to occupye the encrochementt w^t^ hys hywes/ and the lord of medylton clames ytt as a ꝑcell of hys owne lande

Also the said Wyllyā says y^t^ xxx ȝerꝙ past ther was waryans[2] betwixt S^r^ Ryc. Assheton lord of medylton ꝙ Ryc. Radclyff lord of Radclyff as towchyng cokkey mor ꝙ quytte[3] mosse in Radclyff/ The afforesayd partyes were bonden by oblygacyon to abyde the dome and awarde of S^r^ John bothe knyght and lord off barton ꝙ Wyllyā Radclyff lord of Ordsall/ And thaye mett oñ the qwytte mosse in Radclyff and meyrett ytt betwixt theym/ and awardett thaym to occupye cokkey mor as they had down affortyme// The same Wyllyā was p̄sent att the same tyme and dyd help to make a dy̆ch oñ the qwytte mosse the qwych ys the meyr ȝett

Also the said Wyllyā now tenand to the lord of Radclyff hath occupyd Cokkey mor̄ w^t^ all hys bests and hath had turber̄ to gyff and sell att hys pleysur and gyffen such thȳes[4] as ther̄ hath newytt vnto the ꝑson of Radclyff

Jamys Herdmon off the eygh of lxiii ȝer̄ says y^t^ hys father and grandfather haue eū occupyett cokkey mor w^t^ all thayr bests and theyr haue had turber̄ to gyff and sell att thayr pleysur Also the sayd Jamys says y^t^ thay haue paytt thayr theythes vnto the P̄son of Radclyffe as fowle calfe lambe wole w^t^ all other theythes y^t^ ther̄ wer̄ newytt

John Crōchlaw dwellyng in a place cald lytyll levu̾ w^t^in the parēch of

[1] *qu.* out of. [2] variance. [3] white. [4] tithes.

bolton in ye morys and of ye eygh of lxxxiiii 3er℘ says yt he was howsehold S'vand att Radclyff by the space of lx 3er℘ past and theyn the lord of Radclyff ℘ tenands had comyn pastur℘ to cokkey mor afforsayd/ accordyng to the saying of theys men wryten affor℘

Also the afforsayd John says yt xxxte 3er℘ past yr was awayas[1] betwyx Sr Rychard Assheton and the lord of Radclyff theyn thay wer both greutt[2] to abyde the dome ℘ the awarde of Sr John bothe knyght ℘ lord of barton and Wyllyā Radclyff lord of Ordsall and so thay meyrett the qwytte moss betwyx thaym and cokkey mor thay wer bownden by oblygacyon to occupye as thay had don affortyme for eu℘

Also the sayd John says that qwen the waryanc and mettyng℘[3] on cokkey mor was betwyx Ryc. Assheton now lord of Medylton and John Radclyff lord of Radclyff yt last deytt[4] Theyn he and v other ꝑsons yt ys to wytt Jħn Walker Wyllyā Haslū Thomas fflecher Perys Holt ℘ Rog℘ Leyu℘ testefyed this mat℘ for thrwe[5] affor me lord the Justys of Lanchastr. Also the sayd John ys cõtente to testyfye ytt opon the holy ewangelyst℘

[1] There is no instance of this form of the word variance in Nares, Halliwell, &c.
[2] agreed. [3] meeting. [4] died. [5] true.

NOTES.

PAGE 7. "*Mr. Heskethe.*"] Richard Hesketh was a member of a Lancashire family not unknown either to history or heraldry. He was the second son of Robert Hesketh of Rufford Esq. and of Alice his wife, daughter of Sir Robert Booth of Dunham Massey Knt. and niece in half blood of Lawrence Booth, Archbishop of York and Lord Chancellor, whose birth was not obscure, and whose merits were various. See Campbell's *Lives of Lord Chancellors*, vol. i. p. 389. Baines states (vol. iii. p. 427) that the Hesketh pedigree has been "evidently drawn up with great care," and yet implies that Richard Hesketh's mother was not Alice Booth, (p. 426,) an altogether unwarranted implication. Nor is this the only erroneous statement in the pedigree, Richard Hesketh being there recorded as the husband of Grace, daughter of John Towneley of Towneley, whereas he married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Cuthbert Clifton of Clifton Esq. by his wife Alice, daughter and coheiress of Sir John Lawrence of Ashton Hall near Lancaster Knt. Having no issue by Richard Hesketh, whom she survived, she married secondly Sir William Molyneux of Sefton Knt. (a widower,) and had issue by him one son, who inherited her manor of Clifton, and two daughters. Grace, daughter of John Towneley, was the wife of Sir Robert Hesketh, the nephew of Richard here named; whilst Thomas Hesketh, Richard's elder brother, married Grace, daughter of Sir Richard Towneley Knt. but had no child. — *Harl. MS*; Whitaker's *Hist. of Whalley*, p. 344; Baines, vol. iii. p. 428, *Note*; *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xii. *Ped.* Richard Hesketh belonged to a Lancastrian house, and being brought up to the law, was indebted for his promotion to the good offices of Margaret Countess of Richmond and Derby, the generous patroness of learned men. His influence in Lancashire was great, and his practice of the law profitable to himself, and it may be hoped not less so to

his clients, as his name frequently occurs in Lancashire evidences, in conjunction with Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, Lawyer Hawarden, and others. In 1506 he was engaged in the great suit respecting the will and subsequent proceedings of the feoffees of Warden Huntington of Manchester College, (*Not. Cestr.* vol. ii. part i. p. 60,) and he was appointed an executor of the will of Thomas first Earl of Derby K.G. dated July 28th and proved November 9th 1504, being therein styled "a trusty servant" of that potent nobleman. His official connection with the Derby family also led to his appointment as an executor of the will of Thomas the second Earl, who died 23rd May 1521, along with his brothers Thomas Hesketh of Rufford Esq., Hugh Hesketh, Bishop of Man, and others, who are called the Earl's "trusty friends," Cardinal Wolsey, the Lord Chancellor, and Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, being amongst the supervisors of the will. — *Testamenta Vetusta*, vol. ii. pp. 460, 590. Richard Hesketh was appointed Attorney General of the Duchy of Lancaster by Henry VIII. and died in the year 1520, 12 Henry VIII. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. iii.

Ibid. "*Alexand*^{9} *Radcliff.*"] Alexander, eldest son of John Radclyffe of Ordsall near Manchester Esq. (ob. 12 Henry VII.) by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Brereton of Cheshire Knt. succeeded (5th May 1498) his grandfather William Radclyffe of Ordsall Esq. who had married Jane, daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford of Trafford Knt. Alexander Radclyffe was born in 1476, knighted by Henry VIII. and being High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1546 at the death of Henry VIII. was continued in the office by Edward VI. during the following year. He married Alice, daughter of Sir John Booth of Barton Knt. and dying at Ordsall 5th February 1548 æt. seventy-two years, was buried with his ancestors in the Choir of the Collegiate Church of Manchester. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiii; Baines, vol. i. p. 205. His inquisition was taken 3 Edward VI. See *Not. Cestr.* vol. ii. part i. p. 67, *Note* 6.

Ibid. "*Robart Longley.*"] Robert, son of Thomas, and grandson and heir of Robert Langley of Agecroft Esq. and of his wife Eleanor, daughter of William Radclyffe of Ordsall Esq. (Booker's *Prestwich*, p. 196,) which match is not, however, recorded in the elaborate MS. pedigree of Radclyffe of Ordsall deduced by William Radclyffe Esq. Rouge Croix (*Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiii. p. 196). Robert Langley, maternally descended from the Asshetons, was the manerial lord of Prestwich, and presumed to be descended

from the Langleys of Langley in the adjoining parish of Middleton, the parent house of Cardinal Langley, and an offshoot from the great feudal family of Middleton of Middleton. He was born in 1491, and in 1512, being then aged twenty years and six months, succeeded his grandfather. He was knighted by Henry VIII. was twice married, and died in 1561 æt. 70, s.p.m. being the last heir male of his family who resided at Agecroft. An interesting account of the old Hall of Agecroft is given in Booker's *History of Prestwich*, (p. 198 et seq.) Some memorials of the rival houses of York and Lancaster still exist in "the storied pane," and the initials H. E. (Henry and Elizabeth) and R. L. (Robert Langley), with the armorial bearings, occur in several of the older parts of the house. This ancient seat is still occupied by the descendant of the Langleys. See *Notitia Cestr.* vol. ii. part i. p. 51.

Ibid. "*Robart Dokynfeld.*"] Robert, son of Robert, and grandson and heir of John Dukenfield of Dukenfield in the county of Chester Esq. by his wife Katherine, daughter of Sir John Assheton of Assheton Knt. and of his first wife Isabel, daughter of Sir John Elland of Brighouse near Halifax Knt. a lady who, according to the Lancashire pedigrees of the family, married four husbands: (1) Oliver Mirfield of Howley Esq., (2) Sir John Melton of Aston; (3) Sir John Waterton of Methley; (4) Sir John Assheton, who was made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of Henry IV. and Captain and Bailiff of Constantine in France. On a brass in Wakefield Church was this inscription:

> Hic jacent ossa Domine Essabella
> Asheton nuper uxoris Johannis
> Asheton Militis et Mater Willielmi
> Mirfield Milit. obijt tertio Maij
> m.cccclxxxviii.

(*Lanc. MSS.* vol. xii.) Robert Dukenfield, here named, married in 1473 (13 Edward IV.) Elizabeth, daughter of —— Mirfield of Howley Hall in the county of York Esq. He was living in 1512. The Baronetcy conferred upon Colonel Dukenfield, the parliamentary partisan, in 17 Car. II. has descended to the Rev. Sir Henry Robert Dukenfield the seventh Baronet; but the principal Cheshire and Lancashire estates have long been alienated from the title.

Ibid. "*Edmunde Assheton.*"] Edmund, son and heir of John Assheton and of his wife Lettice, daughter and coheiress of Perkin Talbot of Shuttleworth in Whalley, Esq. and grandson of Edmund Assheton (second son of Sir Thomas Assheton of Assheton Knt.) the first of Chadderton in right of his wife Johanna, one of the daughters of Richard Radclyffe and a coheiress of her grandfather Sir John Radclyffe of Chadderton Knt. escheater of Lancashire 12 and 14 Henry VI. who was the lineal descendant of Geoffrey de Chadderton, a younger son of Richard de Trafford, living in the time of King John (see *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xxxi. p. 172, from the record in Coll. Arm. London). Edmund Assheton here named married Jennet, eighth daughter and coheiress of Sir James Harrington of Wolfage in Brixworth in the county of Northampton Knt. (he ob. 6th June 1497) and of his wife Isabella, daughter of William Radclyffe of Ordsall, Esq. He died 34 Hen. VIII. (1542), having purchased Shuttleworth Hall and lands in Hapton, and was seized also of lands in Chadderton, Rochdale, Oldham, &c. his son and heir James Assheton being at that time of the age of 48 years.—*Lanc. MSS.* vol. xxxi. p. 171. The last heir male of the family, the Rev. William Assheton, sold the estate, and was buried in his own Chapel, within Prestwich Church, 28th February 1731–2.—*Ib.*

Ibid. "*Thurstan Tyllysley.*"] Thurstan Tyldesley of Tyldesley and Wardley Esq. was son and heir of Thomas Tildesley Esq. who ob. 18 Hen. VII. (1502), by his wife Anne, daughter of William Radclyffe of Ordsall Esq. and great nephew of Thomas Tyldesley Esq. Sergeant at Law, who died 12 Henry IV. (1410). He was the fourth in descent from Thurstan Tyldesley who obtained the manor of Wardley in the time of Edward III. by his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Jordan, son of Richard de Worsley Esq. and to which Jordan his elder brother Henry gave the manor of Worsley. (See *Lanc. MSS.* vol. iv. art. *Worsley*, and *Whalley Coucher Book*, vol. i. pp. 55–6, *Note*, vol. iii. p. 888, *Note.*) Thurstan Tyldesley here named was in the commission of the peace and a grand-juryman for the county palatine of Lancaster, 14 Henry VIII. (1522).—*Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiv. p. 47. He married twice; first Percival, daughter of Geoffrey Shakerley of Shakerley in the county of Chester Esq. by whom he had issue Thomas his heir, three other sons, and four daughters; and by his second wife, Jane, daughter of Ralph Langton, Baron of Newton, he had issue three daughters and one son, Edward, who succeeded to the Tyldesley estate, hereditary from the time of Henry III. or John, and also to the Deputy

Forestership and Lodge of Myerscough, held under the Duchy of Lancaster. Thurstan Tyldesley died 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, in which year his inquisition was taken, and the division of the Tyldesley estate followed his death, his son Thomas succeeding to Wardley in Tyldesley, with a reputed mesne manor, and to the Billsborough property. The former was sold in parcels by Thurstan, son of this Thomas, and father of Sir Thomas Tyldesley of Gray's Inn Knt. Attorney General and Vice-Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. — See *Lanc. MSS.* vol. iii.; vol. xiii. *Ped.*; vol. xxiv. p. 360; and Dr. Ormerod's *MS.* quoted in the *Stanley Papers*, part ii. p. 197, *Note*.

Ibid. "*Bertylmewe Holcroft.*"] Bartholomew Holcroft Esq. a Lancashire magistrate 14 Henry VIII. and presumed to be of the family of Sir John Holcroft of Holcroft in the parish of Leigh. — Baines, vol. iii. p. 129 et seq. His name does not occur in the Holcroft pedigrees nor in Grafton's Lancashire Collections in the College of Arms.

Page 8. "*Thomas Howreden.*"] Thomas Hawarden, "learned in the laws," and in 1519 Deputy Recorder of Chester, and Clerk of the Mayor's and Sheriffs' Courts in that city, was the son of Thomas Hawarden by his wife ——, daughter of John Leycester of Tabley in the county of Chester, and grandson of John Hawarden of Hawarden in the county of Flint, who married Amabell, daughter and heiress of Hugh Wolston of Wolston in Warrington in the county of Lancaster. It appears from the *Visitation of Lancashire in* 1567 in Coll. Arm. that Thomas Hawarden Esq. here named, married Jane, daughter of John Stanley of Lathom Esq. and had issue John, (in the commission of the peace for Lancashire — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiv. p. 47,) who died in 1556 seized of the manor of Wolston, who by his wife Ellen, daughter of Adam Hulton of the Park Esq. had two sons and two daughters, the elder son, Adam, leaving by his wife Alice, daughter of Sir William Norres of Speke Knt., John, who died apparently s.p., and five daughters; Elizabeth, the second daughter, conveyed the estate of Wolston, 20th August, 1574, to her husband, Alexander Standish of Standish Esq. in whose family it still remains. The old Hall has or had within it a domestic Roman Catholic Chapel. In 1613 the Hawardens of Appleton in the county of Lancaster recorded a pedigree of four descents, but did not trace their connexion with the Wolston house. In the *Lanc. MSS.* vol.

xxxviii. pp. 402—405, there is a collection of abstracts of deeds relating to the manor and family of Wolston of Wolston from about the time of Henry III. to 7 Edward IV. They were probably the descendants of the Banasters lords of Makerfield, of whom they held their lands. It is not stated how the lawyer here named was connected, if at all, with John Hawarden Esq. nominated Attorney General for the Duchy of Lancaster by Edward IV. in 1482, and who had an annual fee of vi^{li} xiii^{s} iv^{d}, which, it may be safely assumed, would only be a small part of the emoluments of his office, (Baines, vol. i. p. 139; iv. p. 579, *Note*, and p. 821,) and who was also Justice of Chester, and ob. 15th October, 1502. — *MS. Notes* of the City of Chester from A.D. 1300 to 1620, formerly belonging to the Rev. William Richardson, Vicar of St. John's, Chester.

PAGE 9. "*S^{r} Oluy^{r} Issherwode.*"] Sir Oliver Issherwode, a long-lived parish priest, occurs 12th June, 18 Edward IV., (1478). In that year "Magister Johēs Scolfeld et Oliuerus Yscherwode capellani," were feoffees of Hugh Holt of Ashworth in Middleton in the county of Lancaster Gent. and at that time reconveyed to Holt (the descendant, through a female, of the old feudal family of Middleton of Middleton) his manor and lands of Ashworth, as well as his personal estate, which had been escheated by Thomas Lathom, the King's Escheator in the county of Lancaster, or by Alan Holt, his deputy within Salfordshire. This property having been sold to Richard Barton of Middleton, James Radcliffe of Radcliffe, and Adam Holt, on the 1st April 27 Henry VI. (1449), owing to the outlawry of Hugh Holt for an offence against the King committed in the county of York, it is probable that some political transgression had led to its confiscation, and to its purchase, evidently for the heir, by family connections. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xi. p. 268. On the 10th November 15 Henry VII. (1500), Henry Holt of Balderston (near Rochdale), Thomas Hill, and Oliver Ussherwode, Capell. were feoffees of Ralph Butterworth of Low House in Butterworth. — *Ibid.* vol. i. p. 159. Once more he is found as an attestor at Milnrow as "Oliver Issherwoode, Capell." on the 10th March 12 Henry VIII. (1520), which induced the writer many years ago to conclude that he was chantry priest of Milnrow, and as he here styles himself "quondam" parish priest of Middleton, (about 1514 or 1515,) the conjecture may still be allowed. — *MS. Catalogues of Vicars and Clergy of Rochdale Parish, Lanc. MSS.* He became parish priest to Sir John Barton before the year 1478, and remained in that office until the Rector's death,

about 1493. Mr. Edmund Assheton apparently had the benefit of his services for twenty-two years from the latter date.

Ibid. "*Syr John Barton.*"] Sir John Barton, Rector of Middleton, has escaped the notice of all the local historians, and finds no place in any of the visitations or other genealogical collections. Dodsworth has a meagre outline of the family, from which it appears that Roger de Middleton (who presented his son John de Middleton, clerk, to the Rectory in 1297 — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiv. p. 57 — and whose son Robert granted all his lands in Middleton to Roger his father, by deed dated 24 Edward I.—*Ib.* p. 59,) was fined for settlement of his estate 10 Edward II. (1316), and died before 16 Edward II. (1322), leaving by his wife Agnes six daughters, his coheiresses, of whom Matilda, or Maud, the eldest, married John Barton of Fryton in Rydale (the John de Kydale of Baines and others) in the North Riding of the county of York, by whom she had probably Ralph Barton, who died seized of the manor of Middleton 8 Henry IV. (1406), and a son and successor, William Barton of Middleton, who married (ante 44 Edward III.) Isabella, daughter of William de Radclyffe (alive 6 Henry V.) whose son and heir Richard Barton (alive 6th September 9 Henry V.) had issue two sons, viz. Richard, who married Alicia, daughter of Sir John Byron of Clayton (alive 5 Edward IV. and then a widow), and John Barton, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir Nicholas Byron Knt. Margery, sole daughter of John, and heiress of Richard Barton, (whose son Thomas ob. v.p., and whose son Richard appears to have had no male descendants capable of succeeding to the inheritance) married (covenant dated 15 April 17 Henry VI.) Sir Ralph Assheton, the owner of Middleton jure uxoris. He was the son of Sir John Assheton of Assheton by his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir John Byron of Clayton Knt. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xxxvii. p. 197, et vol. xiv. pp. 58—75. Sir John Barton became Rector of Middleton before 1478, and died about 1493. He probably is the same person who 25 Henry VI. (1446), along with James de Radcliffe Esq., Richard Barton of Middleton Esq., John de Radclyffe, Richard de Illingworth, (John de Barton, clerk,) and Richard, son of Richard de Barton, conveyed to Richard de Radclyffe del Rhodes the lands which they had received as trustees of Richard de Bamford in Middleton, Spotland, Bury, Withington, &c. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiv. p. 80. He also occurs 21 Edward IV. (1481), when Henry de Holt of Balderston grants to John de Barton, Rector of the Church of Middleton, Thomas le Wryght, Vicar of Eccles, Richard, son

and heir of William de Hilton Esq., and John, brother of the said Richard, all his lands called the Kirkholt in Balderston, the attesting witnesses being Richard de Barton, Thomas Hopwood, Ralph Orrell, and Elias Entwisle.— *Ib.* vol. xiv. p. 86.

Page 10. "*M^t Edm̄nde Assheton.*"] Edmund Assheton, Clerk, Rector of Middleton, appears in the MS. Pedigree of the family, deduced by Mr. Vernon of Shakerley in 1676, as the third and youngest son of Sir Richard Assheton Knt., the third head of his family seated at Middleton, and of his wife, Ann, daughter of Sir Robert Foulhurst of Crewe in the county of Chester Knt. A computation of dates would, however, rather lead to the conclusion that he was the uncle of that distinguished individual, whose father died 28th April 1507, and in the following year his son and heir, Richard, was found by inquisition to be of the age of 26 years (born about 1482), and not likely to have a son Rector of Middleton when he himself was not more than 34 years of age. The Rector was therefore, more probably, the son of Sir Ralph Assheton, who had married the heiress of the Bartons, one of whom he succeeded in the living of Middleton about the year 1493. On the 6th June 3 Henry VIII. George Atherton of Atherton Esq. conveyed to Richard Assheton of Middleton Esq., Edmund Assheton, clerk, Rector of Middleton, and John Hopwood of Hopwood Esq., all his lands in Ashton in Makerfield, and the services of Sir Edward Stanley Knt., Thomas Gerard of Bryn Esq., Thomas Hesketh Esq., &c. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xiv., p. 76. Edmund Assheton occurs in the manuscript pedigree as living 13 Hen. VIII. (1521), and it is there noted — "In the Parish Churche of Middleton, on a brasse plate on a tombe, I finde this inscription:

Hic jacet Magister Edmundus Assheton
Rector istius Ecclesiae qui obijt xxii°
die mensis Augusti A.D. m.d.xxii.
P'ra D'minicalis C. Cujus a'i'ae p'pi-
tietur Deus. Amen.

I gvesse this to be this Edmvnd." — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. iii. p. 231. Dr. Whitaker states that the ecclesiastic here named was Rector in 1524, when Middleton Church was rebuilt, and conjectures that he was the founder of the Choir and North Chapel. This supposition is founded on incorrect data, as Dr. Whitaker's transcript of the brass is inaccurate. The date given by him is the "20 August 1532," whilst that given by Mr. Vernon,

the family genealogist, is xxii August 1522, and so given in Mr. W. Sparrow Simpson's list of monumental brasses in *Notes and Queries*, May 5, 1855. A recent writer perversely adds to the perplexity by printing the date of the Rector's death 20 August 1524. — Butterworth's *Historical Notices of Middleton*, p. 27. Since Whitaker's time, this low and venerable tomb has been concealed by alterations in the Rector's Chapel; but during some judicious repairs in February, 1834, remnants of it were discovered which fix the date, but the mutilated tomb and brass were afterwards closed up, and now remain concealed from view. Whitaker had seen the brass, as he correctly described the Rector as being pourtrayed in his priestly vestments. — *Whalley*, addenda, p. 525.

Page 12. "*S^r laurenc Smyth chauntre p'st at Medilton.*"] He was probably the priest of Cardinal Langley's chantry, founded by that learned Ecclesiastic in Middleton Church about the time of Henry VI. See *Notitia Cestr.* vol. ii. part i. p. 98. The Cardinal, who died in 1437, appears to have been the friend, or at least the associate of Warden Huntington of Manchester College, 13 Henry VI. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xxxviii. p. 9. But long anterior to this date, William de Langley, clerk, was Rector of Middleton, and at Preston 4 Edward III. (1330), released to William de Walton and his heirs all his (Langley's) right in a messuage and two acres of land in Weswall, in Walton, &c.— *Ib.* vol. xiv. p. 75.

Page 17. "*S^r John bothe knyth & lord of barton.*"] Sir John Booth of Barton, the seventh in descent from John Booth of Barton, living 35 Edward I. (1306), was son and heir of Thomas Booth, by his wife Agnes, daughter of Sir John Assheton of Assheton, and was the husband of Helen, daughter of Nicholas Byron of Clayton Esq., by whom he had issue a son and successor, John, and three daughters. — *Lanc. MSS.* vol. xii.

Ibid. "*Wyllyā Radclyff lord of Ordsall.*"] William Radclyffe was the eldest son and heir of Alexander, and grandson and heir of Sir John Radclyffe of Ordshall Knt. He married Jane, daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford Knt., and dying May 5th, 1498 (13 Henry VII., his inquisition post mortem being taken anno 14 Henry VII.) was succeeded by his grandson and heir, Sir Alexander, eldest son of John Radclyffe Esq., who had died 12th April 12 Henry VII. v.p., by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Brereton of the county palatine of Chester Knt. — *Lanc. MSS.*

vol. xiii. pp. 195 – 6. This Sir Alexander was contracted in early life and afterwards married to Alice, second daughter of Sir John Booth of Barton, mentioned in the preceding note. — *Ibid.* vol. xii.

Page 19. "*John Crōchlaw.*"] For an interesting account of the Critchlaws, see Hunter's *Life of Oliver Heywood*, p. 7. It was probably the grandson of this venerable man who, about twenty-five years after this time, "did not scruple to spend the afternoon of the sabbath-day in shooting at the butts on Lomas Moss, then a piece of uninclosed ground not far from Little Lever." Mrs. Critchlaw, his good wife, "attended the zealous ministry of Mr. Hubbert at the chapel in Ainsworth (Cockey) about a mile from his residence."— *Ibid.* p. 8.

Drawn & Lithog.ᵈ by James Croston.

Rowley & Brown. Lith.ʳˢ Manch.ʳ

Denton Chapel.

A HISTORY

OF THE

Ancient Chapel of Denton,

IN MANCHESTER PARISH;

INCLUDING

SKETCHES OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF DENTON AND HAUGHTON,
FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF WHICH HAMLETS THE
CHAPEL WAS ORIGINALLY ERECTED;

TOGETHER WITH

NOTICES OF THE MORE ANCIENT LOCAL FAMILIES,
AND PARTICULARS RELATING TO THE
DESCENT OF THEIR ESTATES.

BY THE REV. JOHN BOOKER, M.A., F.S.A.,

OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,
CURATE OF PRESTWICH.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.
M.DCCC.LV.

CONTENTS.

DENTON TOWNSHIP.

Derivation of name - - - - - - - *page* 1
Early annals of the township - - - - - - 2
Population Returns - - - - - - - - 6
Valuation of property - - - - - - - 8
Its trade and manufactures - - - - - - 9
Its ancient Landed Proprietors:
Family of Denton - - - - - - - - 13
Holland family - - - - - - - - 15
Their early settlement at Denton and Heaton - - - 15
Colonel Richard Holland - - - - - - 16
The Rev. William Holland, rector of Malpas, succeeds to the estates - - - - - - - - - 17
Resigns the rectory of Malpas, and addresses to his late parishioners a laboured justification of his previous non-residence - - - - - - - - - 17
Abstract of his will - - - - - - - - 21
Congratulatory letter from the Rev. John Angier to the Rev. William Holland, on his succeeding to the family estates - 22
Denton hall, description of - - - - - - 23
Holland pedigree - - - - - - - - - 24
Hyde family - - - - - - - - - 26
Their descent from Hyde of Norbury and Hyde, and their connexion with the great Earl of Clarendon - - 26

Abstract of the will of William Hyde of Denton gent. - *page* 27
Robert Hyde of Denton, his zeal in the service of the Commonwealth - - - - - - - - - - 29
Abstract of his will - - - - - - - - - 30
Succeeded by his son Robert, the last of the family seated at Denton - - - - - - - - - - 33
Marriage of the daughter and heiress of Robert Hyde of Denton Esq. with Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton, and conveyance of the estate into the Assheton family - - 33
Hyde hall and lands purchased by the Hulton family - - 34
Description of Hyde hall - - - - - - - 35
Pedigree of Hyde of Denton - - - - - - 36
Hulton family - - - - - - - - - - 38
Hulme family - - - - - - - - - - 39
Barlow family - - - - - - - - - - 40
Redish family - - - - - - - - - - 40
DENTON CHAPEL:
Its foundation - - - - - - - - 41
Architectural description and early history of - - - 41
Addition of the Hyde chapel or pew - - - - 48
Early endowment of the chapel and disputes incident thereto - 51
Letter from the Rev. John Angier, promoting reconciliation between Col. Holland and Mr. Hyde - - - 55
Erection of chapel-house for the minister - - - - 59
Modern parsonage-house erected - - - - - 60
Later endowment of the chapel - - - - - 61
Its early patrons and disputes respecting the patronage - 62
MINISTERS OF DENTON CHAPEL:
Rev. Charles Broxholme - - - - - - - 70
Rev. John Angier - - - - - - - - 71
Pedigree of Angier - - - - - - - - 74
Assistant Curates of Denton in Mr. Angier's days: Rev. John Worthington, Rev. Ralph Seddon, Rev. James Holm, Rev. John Jollie, Rev. Samuel Angier - - - - 76
Efforts made to secure the appointment of Rev. Samuel Angier on his uncle's death - - - - - - - 78
Refusal of the patrons, and nomination of Rev. John Ogden - 79

Unwillingness of Rev. Samuel Angier to vacate - *page* 80
His final relinquishment and departure to Dukinfield - - 81
Incumbency of Rev. John Ogden - - - - 85
The Rev. Roger Dale - - - - - - - - 87
His difficulties as a churchman and royalist - - - 88
Petition of the inhabitants against his continuance amongst them 89
Vindication of his conduct and opinions - - - - 91
Resigns the cure - - - - - - - - 97
Appointment of the Rev. Joshua Hyde - - - - 103
The Rev. Noah Kinsey - - - - - - 105
The Rev. Daniel Pighells - - - - - - 106
The Rev. John Berry - - - - - - 106
The Rev. John Jackson - - - - - - - 106
The Rev. Mr. Grey - - - - - - - 106
The Rev. Joseph Dale - - - - - - - 107
The Rev. William Williams - - - - - 108
The Rev. William Jackson - - - - - - 109
The Rev. W. P. Greswell - - - - - - 109
The Rev. Walter Nicol - - - - - - - 111
Sepulchral Monuments and Inscriptions within the Chapel:
Edward Holland Esq. and Anne his wife - - - 112
Mrs. Eleanor Arderne - - - - - - - 113
Lady Assheton - - - - - - - - 113
Rev. John Angier - - - - - - - - 114
Mrs. Margaret Angier - - - - - - - 114
Rev. Noah Kinsey - - - - - - - - 114
Denton the burial-place of the Rev. William Leigh, the Rev. Samuel Eaton and Col. Dukinfield - - - 115
Extracts from the chapel registers - - - - - 116
Table of baptisms and burials - - - - - 121
Table of marriages - - - - - - - - 123
Spiritual destitution of Denton - - - - - 124
Erection of Christ church - - - - - - 125
Progress of dissent and general educational statistics - 127
Erection of schools for the districts of St. James and Christ church - - - - - - - - - 129

HAUGHTON TOWNSHIP.

Derivation of name - - - - - - *page* 132
Early annals of the township - - - - - - 132
Population returns - - - - - - - 133
Its ancient landed proprietors - - - - - - 134
Valuation of property - - - - - - 135
Its more recent proprietors - - - - - - 135
Its trade and manufactures - - - - - - 135
Haughton hall - - - - - - - - 136
The Shepley estate - - - - - - - 137
Ecclesiastical relations of Haughton - - - - - 137
Dissent in the township - - - - - - 140
General educational statistics - - - - - - 140

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

DENTON CHAPEL - - - - - - *page* 1
DENTON HALL - - - - - - *page* 23
HYDE HALL IN DENTON - - - - - *page* 35

A HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT CHAPEL OF DENTON.

The township of Denton is situated about six miles east-south-east from Manchester, in the Poor-law Union of Ashton-under-Lyne, to which it elects one Guardian, and in the Magisterial Division also of Ashton. It is included in the Polling-district of Manchester, and contained in 1853 seventy-four county voters.

It is bounded on the north by the townships of Gorton and Audenshaw; on the south by the river Tame, which there forms the division between the counties of Lancaster and Chester; on the east by Haughton township; and on the west by Reddish and Gorton.

There are fourteen places in England and Wales bearing this designation.

With the single exception of Haughton, there is perhaps no township in the parish of Manchester of which, historically speaking, so little is known. This arises from its isolated position, having been untraversed by any of the various roads which connect Manchester with the adjacent smaller towns. The formation of the Manchester and Hyde road within the last few years has done much to bring it into notice and to raise it in character and importance.

Its etymology is *Dean*-ton, *Dene*-ton, or *Den*-ton, which in Anglo-Saxon signifies a town or village in a narrow valley or

dale enclosed on both sides by hills, and often exhibiting woods and streams of water convenient for feeding cattle. A portion of the township now known as Daneshead Bank seems to have been in the fourteenth century equal if not superior in importance to Denton proper, which was then called "Denton subter Deneshagh," or "Denton under Downeshagh," admitting of the interpretation, the woody vale; and there is evidence of many parts of Denton having at one time been overspread with woods, whilst the rest of the township was a barren heath or moor, the latter feature being still indicated by the name of a farm which bears the designation, "Holland Moor Farm."

Others, but with small probability of truth, derive its name from *Dane*-ton, associating the township with the Danes who in their invasion of this country about the year 870 seized upon "Manigceastre" or Manchester, after an obstinate resistance on the part of the Anglo-Saxon population. The supporters of this latter derivation instance the names of Daneshut in Denton, of The Danes and Dane-heys in the adjacent township of Gorton, and Dane-head and Dane-wood in Audenshaw; but this opinion is not deserving of much credit.

In the 2 Edward I. (1273) the Abbot of Cokersand was summoned to answer before the King by what authority he claimed certain privileges and immunities in Denton and Haughton, &c. He pleaded that he and his monks were absolved from the payment of fines and taxes within the said limits by a charter granted by King John in the seventeenth year of his reign (1215), wherein the King not only conveys to his, the said Abbot's, predecessor two carucates of land at Newbigging near Singleton, but also confers the privilege above recited. He produces also in further confirmation of the justice of his claim a charter of Henry III. dated 40 Henry III. (1255). His petition was however not admitted except in relation to two carucates of land in Neusum and the manor of Pelyn, all his other lands being declared subject to the payments above referred to.

In the same reign and before the same commissioners, Henry

de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, was summoned to show the authority by which he claimed free warren, &c., in Denton and other places in Lancashire. He supported his claim by the exhibition of a grant from King John to his ancestor Roger de Lacy, in the fourth year of his majesty's reign (1202), and also by the production of a similar grant from Henry III. in the twenty-fifth year of his reign (1240), addressed to Edmund de Lacy. His claim was admitted.[1]

The next notice we have of the township is in a return to a writ of inquisition taken upon the death of Robert Grelle in the 20 Edward I. (1291). It appears therein that he died seised of the manor of Manchester, &c., and two parts of an oxgang of land in Denton.

In 1322, a survey and valuation of the manor of Manchester being taken, it is declared that in Denton there are two bovates of heath-land worth £1 6s. 8d.[2] which Robert de Ashton holds for the term of his life for 13s. 0½d. yearly. The Waste of Denton contains two hundred acres or more. The lord of Manchester, Alexander de Choreworth, Alexander de Denton, John de la Hyde, Hugh son of Richard de Moston, and Elias de Betham of Denton, share in the hundred acres by reason of two bovates of land which Robert de Ashton holds of the lord for the term of his life, in Denton, and which Robert Grelle acquired from "John le Lord," who held the same (with his part of the Waste which is not several) of the lord of Withington; and of which Waste each partaker aforesaid may appropriate to himself twenty-five acres of the said Waste. The profit in pasture and turbary is computed with the said bovates, on which it depends. In this survey it is stated that the inhabitants of Denton and Halleton (Haughton) contribute towards the maintenance of the lord's bailiff and his four underbailiffs, whose duty it was to exercise a general oversight of the lord's manor, to collect his rents and to levy his fines.

[1] Placita de Quo Warranto Rolls, pp. 379, 381.

[2] Thus in Kuerden's MS. The Harl. MSS. have £1 16s. 8d.

In 1356–63 an exemplification of the proceedings between Thomas de Abnay of the High Peak and Thurstan de Holand of Salfordshire, was returned in the Duke's Chancery concerning the manor of Denton under Downeshagh.[1]

In 1361–2 William de Manchester and Geoffrey de Bexwyck grant lands to Thurstan de Holand, which they had from Thomas de Albany of Ael Pike in Denton subter Deneshagh.[2]

In the 12 Edward IV. (1472) the manor of Manchester *inter alia* was settled on the heirs of Sir Thomas West (son and heir of Richard Lord de la Warr) and Alianor his wife. From a rental of their estates it appears that John Hulton of Farnworth Esq. held in socage one messuage with appurtenances, and divers tenements in Denton, of the said lord, by socage and a yearly rent of thirteen shillings and fourpence.

In the 22 Edward IV. (1482) an inquisition taken upon the death of Richard West, Lord de la Warr, declares him seised at the time of his death, in his demesne as of fee of the manor of Manchester, with the hamlets of Withington, Denton, Openshagh, Cleyton, Ardwike, Blakeley, and Gorton.

Towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth the waste lands of Denton were enclosed. Their extent at this time was two hundred and ninety-two acres; and their appropriation by the adjacent landowners was resisted by certain of the inhabitants and others, who in the 38 Elizabeth (1596) appealed to the Duchy Court to be protected against the proposed invasion of their just rights. In this suit the names of the plaintiffs were declared to be Sir Robert Cecil Knt., Hugh Beeston, Michael Hycks, and Humphrey Flint: the prosecution was probably at the instance of the Crown, Sir Robert Cecil being at the time Chancellor of the Duchy and "principal secretary to her Majesty and one of her Highness's most honourble Privy Council." The defendants were Richard Holland, Alexander Reddish, Robert Hyde and others. Each landowner whose property lay contiguous received a grant of waste land proportioned

[1] Vide Duchy Rolls, Baines's *Hist of Lanc.* vol. i. p. 346.

[2] *Foundations in Manchester*, vol. iv. p. 109.

to the extent of his estate in the township: thus Richard Holland had allotted to him seventy-nine acres; Robert Hyde, of Norbury, eighty-eight acres; Adam Hulton forty-six acres; Robert Hyde, of Denton, thirty-eight acres; Robert Holme (Hulme) six acres; Robert Ashton five acres; Alexander Reddish one acre; Ralph Haughton twenty-two acres; Alexander Barlow seven acres. During the continuance of the suit a taxation was made upon the grantees after the rate of £1 7s. 4¾d. per acre on the lands thus assigned, in order to defray the expenses of the suit, by which means it was calculated that the sum of £399 19s. 7d. would be raised. This payment was made by instalments, whereof one of three shillings per acre was collected April 4, 1597, at Denton Chapel, and is described as a fund "ffor p'secutinge of the suite conserninge Denton more." Amongst the family papers of the Earl of Wilton is a statement of the expenses incurred at one stage of the prosecution: —

Disbursed termino Pasce A° 1597.

ffor searche in the Tower and to Mr. Tildisley his man for his paines in going wth me and wrytinge of one breviat		vj iiij
ffor search in the Duchie		iij iiij
ffor a Copye of an Order for the newe daye of hearinge		xij
To Mr. Atkinson.....		xx
To the sayd Mr. Atkinson		xl
To Mr. Hyde		xx
To Mr. Tildisley		xl
Attornaye ffees in the Duchie..... .		iij iiij
A. D.....	x	
To Mr. Tildisley his mañ for drawinge the Bookes		v
To Mr. Davemportes mañ wrytinge out the Articles		iij
To Mr. Davineporte.....	iij	

To Mr. Pudsayes mañ for ingrossinge the Articles		v	
ffor hyre of my Chamber, fyre and Candles...		xx	
Horse meate for iij horses v nights goinge upe vij^{s} the night		xxxv	
Horse meate in Londoñ xvij nights xviij^{d} the horse	iij	xvj	vj
Horse meate cominge downe v nights		xxxv	
ffor the dyett of mee and ij meñ from ffrydaye the viij of aprill untill Wednesdaye the iv of Maye beinge xxvj dayes at vj^{s} the daye	vij	xvj	
Disbursed.....	xxxvj	ix	vj

The earliest return of the population of Denton bears date 1645. It is derived from "A particular account of a Quarter's Wages for each inhabitant in Denton as they have anciently paid both to the preaching minister there and to the repair and provisions of the Chappell."[1] In that year the number of houses in the township was 34, representing an aggregate population of about 170 persons. As this return gives the name of the householder and the rate of his taxation, it enables us to assign to each his position in the social scale: —

Mr. Holland's Tenants.

Mr. Holland	00 . 10 . 06 ob
Mr. John Scholes, for Taylor's	00 . 02 . 06
John Lowe	00 . 01 . 07
John Bromilow	00 . 01 . 02
Widow Holland's	00 . 01 . 04
Widow Lowe's, alias Booths and Hyde's	00 . 01 . 05
Isaac Gee.....	00 . 00 . 09

[1] From the Family Papers of the Earl of Wilton.

William Stopford, smith	00 . 00 . 08
Nicholas Bromilow	00 . 00 . 06 ob
Adam Cheetham	00 . 01 . 00
	01 . 01 . 06

Mr. Hyde's Tenants.

Mr. Robert Hyde	00 . 08 . 08
Tho: Booth, for Thorniley's	00 . 00 . 08
Richard Wild's	00 . 00 . 04
	. 09 . 08

Mr. Haughton's Tenants quondam.

James Robinson, own dwelling house	00 . 01 . 00
Ditto, his house that was Robert Robinson's	00 . 01 . 00
Grace Bridgehous widow	00 . 01 . 00 ob
Tho: Lees de Newhouse, for the house wherein Adam Holland lives	00 . 00 . 10 ob
Ditto, for his own house that was Cartwright's	00 . 01 . 00 ob
Ditto, for Marler's house	00 . 00 . 04
Tho: Lees de Townlane and John his son	00 . 00 . 10
	06 . 01 ob

Mr. Hulton's Tenants.

Tho: Lees de Bightbanks, his own dwelling-house	00 . 01 . 04 q^d
Ditto, for his Tenant's house	00 . 01 . 05
Mary Lowe widow, and John her son	00 . 01 . 05 ob q^d
Robert Hyde alias Harrison	00 . 00 . 11
William Hardy	00 . 01 . 01

John Lees, for Samuells	00 . 01 . 00 ob q^d
William Stopford, of Nicolas	00 . 01 . 03
Abraham Cook	00 . 00 . 11
John Beswick	00 . 00 . 01 ob
Theophilus Lowe	00 . 00 . 01 ob
Isaac Lowe widow and son	00 . 00 . 10 ob
Thomas Beeley	00 . 00 . 05 q^d
William Stopford, alekeeper	00 . 00 . 05
Raphe Smith	00 . 00 . 11 q^d
	. 12 . 04 ob q^d

In 1714 the number of families in the township was 44, of which ten were Presbyterian. This would give a total population of 220 individuals.

In 1774 the number of families had increased to 116, consisting of 597 persons and residing in 111 houses. 243 of its inhabitants were under the age of fifteen years; 61 above fifty; 17 above sixty; 15 above seventy; 6 above eighty.

In 1801 the population had increased to 1362; in 1811 it numbered 1594; in 1821, 2012; in 1831, 2792; in 1841, 3440; in 1851, 3147.

In 1655 the township contained 40 rate payers; and the aggregate poor's rate paid by them for the six months ending November 25 was £14 4s. Amongst the rate payers in that year were Richard Holland Esq. £4 1s. 8d.; Robert Hyde Esq. £2 5s. 8d.; William Stopford the elder, for Kits (or Christ's) Croft, Tho: Leez for Bridgehous, for Cartwright's and for Marler's house; Thomas Bexwick, &c. In 1828–9 the same rates were £201; in 1838, £459 16s.; in 1847, £499 7s. 7d.; and in 1853, £821 8s. 7d. In this latter year the number of ratepayers was 650.

In 1692 the annual value of real property in the township, as assessed to the land tax, was £378; in 1815, as assessed to the county rate, £3195; in 1829, £6393; in 184I, £7890; and in

1853, £7568. In 1852 the gross annual value of property rated to the poor was £8267 1s. 3d. In this latter year there were in Denton ten public-houses and eleven beerhouses.

The superficial area of the township, as computed by Rickman in the population return of 1831, is 1630 acres; in the census return of 1851 it is stated to be 1647 acres. Messrs. Johnson and Son make it 1703 acres, and the ordnance survey 1706a. 0r. 34p.

In 1846 the lands of the township were in the hands of twenty-seven proprietors, of whom the chief were

	A.	R.	P.
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Wilton (Denton Hall Estate, &c.)	603	0	39
Miss Mary Woodiwiss (Hyde Hall Estate, Dane Heyes, &c.)	312	3	9
Trustees of the late Ellis Fletcher Esq.	235	1	4
James Smith Esq.	96	2	34
Trustees of Mr. Hulme's Charity	57	1	37
Henry Booth Esq.	55	3	24
Mrs. Mary Lees	26	2	23
Mr. Matthew Morse	25	2	19
Mrs. Mary Cooke	21	0	4
London and North Western Railway	15	3	1
Manchester and Salford Waterworks	1	2	27

Of the total area, assuming it to be 1630 acres, 1538 acres consist of arable and pasture land, and 60 acres of plantation.

Of the manufactures, &c., in Denton little is to be said except that, contrary to what is elsewhere seen in the suburbs of Manchester wherever the spirit of commercial enterprise has once manifested itself, trade has here retrograded rather than advanced. The staple trade of Denton was, and may still be considered to be, the manufacture of hats; but its decay is evidenced by the decreasing numbers of its population and the diminished value of

property in the township. In 1825 it contained twenty hat manufacturers, which number is now (1854) reduced to twelve.

To some slight extent the manufacture of hats had established itself in Denton and Haughton about two centuries ago; but, unfortunately, one great source of information as to the degree of its prevalence, viz. the parochial Registers, is now unavailable, the earliest volume extant commencing with the year 1695; we cannot therefore infer when felt-making first began to compete with the plough and the handloom. The Bertenshaws of Haughton Green were the earliest known *masters* or manufacturers, some hundred and fifty years ago. The firms engaged in the hat trade in the united townships in the year 1800, were Messrs. John, Robert, and Andrew Bentley; Bond, Bromley, and Peacock; George Bowler and Co.; and Ashworth. A quarter of a century later the manufacturers were, in Denton, Messrs. John Bentley and Co.; Richard Bond and Son; John Bowler; Bromley and Son; R. and J. Chorlton; John Cooke; William and Edward Cooke; Joseph and Joshua Denton; Charles and Thomas Hardy; Samuel Moss; John Peacock and Son; John Platt; Sale and Myre; Luke Taylor; and Thomas Whitehead. In Haughton, Messrs. J. H. Booth and Co.; John Dearden; J. Howard and Co.; Robert Marlor; and James Mellor and Sons. The oldest firm now extant in Denton is Messrs. John Peacock and Brothers, the representative of Messrs. Bromley and Peacock, who commenced business in 1792.

About the year 1780 round hats first became fashionable, and some ten years later cocked hats disappeared from common use. Up to this period the chief manufacture was coarse stuff hats, composed of a mixture of foreign wool and fur, the nap being laid on at the plank; afterwards an improvement was introduced under the name of cordy hats. These consisted of an English wool body with a covering of cod wool or camel's hair worked on, and, before ruffing was discovered, carded up with a small card. In 1805 plated hats began to supersede cordy hats. These were formed from a felt body, into which were worked hairs, seal, cony,

or beaver's wool, or other furs, and then carded out as before. About this time the price of pate-wool fur (fur from the head of the rabbit) was fifteen shillings per pound; it is now one shilling and sixpence. During the time that stuff hats were in vogue, beaver ranged from one hundred and twenty to two hundred shillings per pound; the present price is from fourteen to twenty-four shillings. Silver beaver or "silver ewens," for drab hats, was even as high as two hundred and ten shillings per pound. The weight of a stuff hat, when finished, fifty years ago, was ten ounces; in 1842 they were made to weigh only four ounces and a half. At the former period an English wool body weighed six and three quarters to seven ounces; now they vary from three to three and a half ounces. After the wool had been washed and carded, the body maker commenced operations, and for bowing, basining, boiling and planking, he received in 1805 eight shillings per dozen. A new method of raising the nap by the process called ruffing was discovered about the year 1800, and five years subsequent to this discovery the workman was paid sixteen shillings per dozen, and could complete two dozens per week under the old system of gluing after ruffing, and three dozens per week, when, previous to ruffing, the hats were rendered waterproof by chemical agency. Waterproofing came up about 1805; it was accounted a grand discovery, although it did not arrive at perfection till fifteen years afterwards; each manufacturer had his own peculiar proof. The next operation, that of dyeing, was always under the control of the master. In 1841, body makers could earn from twenty-five to thirty shillings a week; ruffers about the same; and finishers from thirty shillings to three pounds. Formerly females, chiefly the daughters of those who had large families, were employed, some at body making, others at ruffing, and it was not at all unusual to see two or three sisters hatting together. In these prosperous times the rent of a cottage, to which usually a small garden as well as a hat shop was attached, was about £9 per annum; but since the decline of the felt hatting trade in Denton, rents have been materially reduced. In 1805

large quantities of drab bonnets for females began to be manufactured from the finest wool, in order to render them light of wear; at this period the price for rutling them varied, according to size, from seven to twelve shillings per dozen — the operative could then earn thirty shillings weekly at this employment. The bonnet branch was very brisk, especially in the winter season, from 1818 to 1840, at which latter period no less than one hundred dozens were manufactured each week by Messrs. Peacock alone. The felt hat trade reached its greatest prosperity about the year 1840, when not less than two thousand dozens were manufactured weekly in Denton and Haughton. Many of the London houses had their establishments in these hamlets, some of them receiving the bodies from Denton, and dyeing and finishing them in the metropolis. But as customers would not purchase any other than a "London hat," or at least one sold under that designation, so each Denton firm, in order to accommodate itself to the popular prejudice, had its fictitious London names for insertion on the crown lining, just as silk hats now claim Parisian origin. One old Denton firm inscribed their manufacture, "Stephen and Co., Regent Street," and latterly, "Willis and Co., Bond Street," names which, it is needless to say, represented but imaginary firms. About this time the silk hat was prominently brought into notice, but its introduction at first excited no alarm amongst the felt hat makers, who in blind security could not foresee the revolution in public taste about to happen, but treated the discovery with contempt. Silently, however, it advanced in the favour of the people; and, as if to add to the discomfiture of the artisans of the old school, dissensions multiplied between the employers and their servants, in which the latter, elated by a long season of prosperity, miscalculated their power, and entered into combinations which hastened their ruin. It was in 1841 that, in order to resist alleged abatements made by an *Oldham* house, lot was taken, and the result was a strike against a *Manchester* firm then actually paying the highest rates in the trade. This turnout commenced at Oldham January 23, 1841, with the finishers, who were after-

wards joined by the body makers and ruffers; but about the middle of May following they were obliged to resume work on the previous conditions. Before this time silk hats had competed with stuff ones to little purpose, but the masters, as a body, determined to resist the strike by every possible means; orders unexecuted by the one class of workmen were transferred to the other, and even some of the masters now commenced in the silk line. It was afterwards admitted by all parties that this strike had caused silk hats to become general at least ten years sooner than they would otherwise have done. In 1847–8–9 the state of the Denton hatters and their families was pitiable in the extreme; their trade was now irrecoverably lost; upwards of one thousand families in Denton, Haughton, and the surrounding villages, were deprived for the most part of their means of subsistence, and consequently large numbers left the locality in search of other employment in other districts. Silk hats have now entirely superseded stuff ones, and at the present time the manufacture of felt bodies is nearly abandoned. The old established firm of Messrs. John Peacock and brothers at present make not more than three dozen felt hats weekly, and these are principally of the class known as "rustics," and intended for exportation.

In addition to the manufacture of hats, there are also in the township three collieries, in the tenure of Jacob Fletcher Fletcher Esq., and one small weaving shed.

In an enumeration of the more ancient landed proprietors in the township, the name that first suggests itself is

DENTON OF DENTON.

Of this family none except the most scanty and imperfect memorials have reached us. Its members were doubtless amongst the earliest colonists of the township from which they derive their name.

By deed dated the feast of St. Martin 1272, John Tyrel confirms to the convent of Stanlawe an acre of land in Denton, the gift of

his grandfather Hugh Tyrel, and which his great-uncle Richard de Denton now holds for the term of his life.

From another deed, of uncertain date, but referring probably to a period anterior to the year 1290, it appears that Henry, son of Thomas de Denton, releases to the abbot and monks of the convent of Stanlawe an acre of land in Denton, being an estate formerly held by his father from the said abbot or his predecessor.

By a deed undated, similar to the last, Henry de Denton and Matilda his wife, the daughter of Richard the Sexton (Cemetarius), quitclaim to the convent of Stanlawe and to the abbot and monks thereof all their right in certain lands called Whitefield, situate in Little Woolton, formerly in the occupation of the said Richard the Sexton as tenant of the said convent. There is also a further release of the same land from John de Denton.[1]

In the 8 Edward I. (1279) Alexander de Denton settled certain estates upon Cecilia, daughter of David de Hulton,[2] from which period probably the landed interest of the Hulton family in the township dates. About the year 1300 Robert de Denton, abbot of Furness, granted a license to Sir Richard Coupland to found a chantry in his Chapel of Bolton in Urswick, in the Deanery of Furness and Cartmel.[3] The name of Alexander Denton occurs also in the survey or valuation of the manor of Manchester undertaken in the year 1322; he is therein declared to have a joint participation in the ownership of the waste lands in Denton township.

From the Holland pedigree it appears that about this date John Shoresworth Esq. married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir Alexander Denton of Denton Knt. The issue of this marriage was a daughter, Margaret, sole heiress, who by her marriage with Sir William Holland conveyed the Denton estate to that ancient family. Their son Thurstan de Holland was living in 1339.

The arms borne by this family were arg. two bars gu. in chief three cinquefoils of the second.

[1] *Coucher Book of Whalley*, vol. iii. pp. 807—809, and 821, 822.

[2] Hulton pedigree, Baines's *Hist. of Lancashire*, vol. iii. p. 40.

[3] *Notitia Cestriensis* (Chetham Society Publications), vol. ii. part iii. p. 545.

HOLLAND OF DENTON.

The family of Holland is associated with the county of Lancaster as early as the reign of King John, the registers of Cokersand Abbey attesting the fact by a record of their liberality in assisting to endow that ancient foundation.

Sir William Holland, who is described as of Denton, married Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Shoresworth, by Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir Alexander Denton of Denton, by which alliance the Denton property was conveyed, as already stated, to the Hollands. Their son Thurstan Holland was living in 1339. Sir William is the first member whose name occurs in the annals of the township. He was in direct descent from William, a younger son of Sir Robert de Holland, a soldier in the Scottish wars of Edward I. and afterwards secretary to the Earl of Lancaster. This Sir Robert married Maud, daughter and coheiress of Alan Lord la Zouch of Ashby de la Zouch in the county of Leicester, and being held in great esteem by the Earl his master, received grants of divers manors in Lancashire, but afterwards being unfaithful to his trust, he was put to death in 1328. He founded the Priory of Black Monks in Holland in Lancashire.

In the 20 Edward III. (1346) one Moston makes a grant of lands in Denton to Thurstan de Holland; and in the 1 Henry IV. (1399) Richard Holland is found seised of the manor of Denton, which he holds of Nicholas Longford by military service.

From this early period they continued in possession until the close of the seventeenth century, when, on the death of Edward Holland Esq. the last heir male of the family, who died unmarried, his extensive estates devolved upon his only surviving sister, Elizabeth, afterwards wife of Sir John Egerton of Wrinehill and Farthinghoe Bart., from whom they have descended to the present proprietor, Thomas Egerton second Earl of Wilton.

The Hollands of Denton and Heaton have been generally considered as two distinct branches from the same parent stem, and many unsuccessful attempts have been made to discover the precise

connexion subsisting between them, and when they became first united under a common representative. The truth is that these alleged branches were always identical, and, though possessed of the Heaton Reddish estate as early as the year 1326, the residence of its members was fixed at Denton, an inheritance of a date perhaps yet more remote, where they continued to dwell until the middle of the sixteenth century. Richard Holland of Denton Esq., who married Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Sir Robert Langley of Agecroft, was the first to erect for himself a mansion on his Heaton property; this he named Heaton House to distinguish it from Heaton Hall, the capital messuage the Heaton Fallowfield estate, which with its demesne was the inheritance of the Langleys, and had been conveyed to Thomas Legh Esq. on his marriage with Katharine, another daughter of Sir Robert. Richard Holland resided at Heaton and Denton alternately until his death in 1618.

This view is supported by evidence given in 1674 at Lancaster, on occasion of an action brought by William Holland Esq. against Robert Lever of Alkrington gentleman, to establish his claim to a chapel situate in the north side of the chancel of Prestwich Church. At this trial one of the witnesses deposed that "above fifty years since, being in company with one Hardman, tenant at Heaton, he asked why the New Hall [the present Heaton House] was so called; they told him the New Hall was formerly a tenement belonging to the Old Hall [the property of the Langleys of Agecroft], and a dairy-house thereto belonging, and that the tenement lying nearer to the church and market than Denton, *where the Hollands lived, they being owners thereof*, builded the New Hall for their convenience."

Richard Holland Esq., who lived in the time of the Usurpation, was a rigid Puritan, and held military rank in the Parliamentary army, being governor of Manchester during the siege of that town by Lord Strange and the Royalist party in 1642. He died in 1661, having outlived his only son, Edward, and was succeeded by his brother Henry, at that time sixty years of age, who did not long survive his succession to the family inheritance. Contemplating

matrimony, he died on the very day fixed for his marriage, his estates descending to his next brother, the Reverend William Holland, Rector of the lower mediety of Malpas, in the county of Chester.

The party predilections of Mr. William Holland seem to have been opposed to those of his brother and predecessor, Colonel Holland, since it is on record that he was appointed to preach at the death of a distinguished loyalist, the founder of the house of Vale Royal. His sermon, which is yet extant, is "replete with beautiful descriptions of the virtues and sufferings of the deceased, but reprobating with the most incautious zeal the heresies, schisms, and personated holiness of the ruling party." Dr. Ormerod denies his connexion with the Hollands of Heaton and Denton, having failed to trace in the full and accurate pedigree of the family, entered at the Lancashire Visitation of Sir William Dugdale in 1664, any member who bears the designation of Rector of Malpas;[1] but in this he is in error. Mr. William Holland, though in the family pedigree styled "Esquire," was appointed Rector of Malpas about the year 1652, and resigned the living in 1680, having during the later years of his incumbency resided on the Lancashire estate of his family, to which, contrary to his expectation, he had succeeded, and where he was better known, in the management and supervision of his estates, as an influential landed proprietor than as an ecclesiastic. He married, Feb. 27th, 1654–5, Cicely, daughter of Alexander Walthall of Wistaston in the county of Chester Esq., and is described in the Registers of the Church of Malpas, where the marriage was solemnized, as "minister of God's word at the lower mediety of Malpas."

Mr. Holland, on his final departure from his living, addressed to his parishioners the following reasons for the course he was pursuing, intended, as it might seem, to justify himself from the aspersions of some of his flock: —

". . . . . without any reflection on the uncharitableness of our last and worst times, and the censorious age we are fallen into, which swells every mote into a beam, every gnat into a camel, and by

[1] *History of Cheshire*, vol. ii. p. 342.

undeserved misconstructions blemish the credit and carriage of others, give me leave to become my own apologist, both to remonstrate what may tend to my just vindication and to prevent misplaced prejudices of others touching my removal from Malpas into Lancashire, some thirty miles' distance, unto that estate which the Providence of God hath cast into my lap, which although in regard there are two parsonages of that church, and that each rector hath only the mediety of the cure, may lie under the latitude of a charitable excuse, yet I am willing to give an account of that my transaction, and in order unto that premise these two or three negative particulars: —

"First, my removal from Malpas was not out of any contempt or undervaluing disdain of my function and call to the ministry; God is my witness, in this sense I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; so far from that, that I esteem it (how slightingly and contemptuously soever the world looks on it) as a very high and honourable function, and have expressed the highest respects I am able for persons of that profession.

"Secondly, my removal from Malpas proceeded not out of any weariness of my ministerial employment; for had my voice and abilities remained unto me, my record is in Heaven how willing and desirous I was to have continued my time and labours in it, which for some years after I was called to the inheritance of my fathers I continued, though with some prevailing infirmities, as my parishioners will attest.

"Thirdly, my removal from Malpas was not upon the consideration or design of reaping any considerable advantage or profit by it, for casting in my taxes and tenths, my travail and expenses, (besides somewhat else which it is not proper for me to mention,) there is no valuable emolument accruing to me, as will be asserted by others.

"Having offered these premises to prevent a stumbling at the threshold, let me tender those inducements which urged my removal: —

"First, my own disability of voice to discharge my office and duty there in public was a great discouragement to me to continue there

where I could only look upon the pulpit; and how great and pressing my infirmity was my parishioners can attest, who have often pitied the straining of my lungs and wrestling with hoarseness to reach the skirts of so large a church and so numerous a congregation.

"Secondly, the death of my wife, whereupon by precedent and subsequent experiences I had been taught that there was no keeping of a house in that place, especially considering my frequent occasions in another county would often enforce my diversions abroad and absence from home.

"Thirdly. Besides (only to mention the houses and lands I was by a Providence called unto were daily more and more going to decay and ruin for want of timely repairs of the one and needful improvement of the other) — I say, besides what hath been offered it may be added, — The education of my children (which the loss of their mother made me doubly obliged to consult and provide for) could not as they grew up be so conveniently accommodated there as elsewhere.

"These considerations swayed with me to remove my dwelling from Malpas to my native country, to experience whether the air thereof might anyways contribute to an amendment of those infirmities which (to my no little trouble) disabled me for the public performance of my ministerial duties. Yet with this declared purpose, that whenever the parishioners shall move me to it, I shall be willing to give place to a more acceptable and serviceable successor."

To this laboured justification of his non-residence, those of his parishioners who were well affected towards their rector responded in suitable terms, admitting the justice of his plea and expressing their satisfaction at the arrangement which had withdrawn him from them, if only his health might thus be re-established: —

"We the parishioners of Malpas parish in the county of Chester are willing by these presents to certify that William Holland, clerk, Master in the Arts and Rector of the Nether mediety of Malpas aforesaid, hath been parson there above four and twenty years, and for the space of more than twenty years did with unwearied labours carefully perform all the offices appertaining to his place and calling

until of late years it hath pleased God to visit him with such bodily infirmities that have caused great obstructions in breathing and difficulties in speaking, so that not without compassion and pity of his sufferings and infirmities we have of late years heard him deliver his meditations in the pulpit.

"The premises considered, we charitably conceive his discontinuance among us hath principally proceeded from the forementioned discouragements which have lain upon him as to his public and ministerial performances, as also for a trial whether his native country's air might contribute to his recovery; from whence he hath yet frequently come to officiate though to the prejudice of his health and heightening of his distemper, at once to own his relation to us, and his willingness to exercise his ministry among us, which (if it please God to enable him for) we very much desire, forasmuch as after a Providence had called him to succeed to his father's inheritance in another county, he yet for three or four years resided with us and exercised in person his ministry amongst us whiles he had any tolerable abilities of health or voice to do it. Wherefore we, as friends both to him and to the truth, are willing to attest the premises by our subscriptions."

To this certificate there are no signatures attached, being, as in the former case, a rough draft in the autograph of Mr. Holland. Its date would be about 1676, but this too is wanting in the original draft. It does not appear that Mr. Holland's health was ever sufficiently re-established to enable him again to reside at Malpas, and he finally resigned the living in 1680. He died two years after, and was buried at Prestwich, (April 29, 1682) leaving his extensive estates to his son Edward, the last heir male of the family. Edward Holland survived his father little more than a year, and dying February 1683, in the twentieth year of his age, was also buried at Prestwich. Upon his death the family estates descended to his sole surviving sister Elizabeth, married November 27, 1684, to Sir John Egerton Bart. of Wrinehill and Farthinghoe in the county of Northampton, the ancestor of the present proprietor, Thomas Egerton second Earl of Wilton.

By his will, dated January 5, 1681, William Holland of Heaton in the county of Lancaster, clerk, Master of Arts, being subject to the distempers of an aged body, but (which he blesses God for) of perfect memory and understanding, expresses readiness (in the day of the Almighty His goodness to him, in the enjoyment of health, knowing however that the grave devours in a moment, and so uncertain of the day of his death) to make a certain disposition of his estate, &c., which he does in manner and form following: —

First, he resigns his soul unto the Father of spirits who gave it, and into the hands of Jesus Christ who redeemed it, hoping through the mercies of the living God and the merits of his (once) dying Saviour, it will be joined to the assembly of just ones made perfect. Then, as to his body, (though it shall moulder away into dust and see corruption, yet through the power of his Saviour's resurrection he believes it will be raised up at the last day, and that with these very eyes he shall see his Redeemer) he refers it wholly to the discretion of his executors to be decently interred, and if it may be to sleep with his fathers in the Chapel in Prestwich Church, which belongs to Heaton Hall and his family, and where so many of his ancestors have been buried. And as for his worldly goods — He gives and devises all his manors, lordships, tenements and hereditaments to his dear and well-beloved son Edward Holland and his heirs male, charged with a payment of "twenty hundreth pounds" to his (testator's) dear and well-beloved daughter Elizabeth Holland, for her better preferment in marriage. And for his personal estate, He gives his son Edward, as a legacy, the biggest silver cann with the Walthalls and Skeffingtons coats of arms, empaled, engraven on it, together with a dozen of silver spoons, his silver clock watch, with all his books (except such as he shall hereafter otherwise dispose of) together with his choice of what colt he (testator) dies possessed of — and the furniture of the chamber over the great parlour. To his daughter Elizabeth he leaves, as a legacy, the residue of his silver plate, rings, jewels, bracelets, the lesser silver watch, all the furniture of the Chapel-chamber at Heaton, what Bible she will choose out of his books, together with the Practice of Piety and all

the books written by the author of the Whole Duty of Man, and six other books she will choose, and what colt she pleases after her brother Edward hath made his choice. To his sister, Lady Frances Eyton, £5 and twenty shillings for a ring. To his sister Jane Cholmondeley £10 and twenty shillings for a ring, besides that ring which he hath constantly worn which she bestowed upon him. To his cousin Frances Beresford widow, — to his cousin Ann Kenyon widow, — to his cousin Robert Cholmondeley of Holford, and cousin Thomas his brother — to his much esteemed and dear cousin Esther Dod of Edge — to his cousins Thomas and William Dod, Jane Crewe, Mary Short of Mayford, Frances Poole, Anne and Elizabeth Croxton, twenty shillings each to buy a ring — to his god-son Edward Kenyon and his god-daughter Sarah Croxton forty shillings each as a token and pledge of his love and blessing. To his servants also he leaves legacies. Finally, as a pledge and token of his love and well wishes to the township and parish of Malpas, where (whilst able) he so many years exercised his ministry, he bequeaths the sum of £100, principally for the advance of a salary towards the maintenance of a schoolmaster there.

He names as executors his sisters Lady Frances Eyton and Jane Cholmondeley, his son Edward Holland, Mr. Roger Dale, minister of Denton Chapel, and George Smythe of Sharples.

The following letter, addressed to Mr. Holland by "the good old man" Mr. Angier, curate of Denton, was written shortly after Mr. Holland succeeded to the family estates:

Honrd Sir,

I have made bold to send herewith a small testimony of my due respects to your beloved consorte with thankfull acknowledgment to yourselfe who have been pleased to continue to me that favour w^{ch} (through the goodness of God) I have found from your family above thirty years in this place, though unworthy. It hath been a refreshing to my spirit to hope that God hath reserved you to be a repairer of the many and great breaches made upon your family, and in order thereunto hath given you an heart to build the house

Drawn & Lithogd. by James Croston.

Rowley & Brown. Lithrs. Manchr.

Denton Hall.

THE ANCIENT RESIDENCE OF THE DENTON BRANCH OF THE HOLLAND FAMILY.

Holland of Denton and Heaton.

(From the MS. Collections of the late Holland Watson Esq., communicated to him by William Radcliffe, Rouge Croix, in July 1806.)

Richard Holland of Denton, descended from William, fifth son of Robert Holland, Knt., Baron Holland. = ... dau. of ..... Harrington of Horneby.

Thurstan Holland, Esq. = Jane, dau. of John Arderne.

- Elizabeth, dau. of Richard Assheton, Esq., s.p.
- 1 Robert Holland of Denton, Esq.
- 3 John.
- 4 Lawrence.
- 5 Ralph.
- 6 Edward.
- Eleanor, mar. John Davenport, Esq.
- Elizabeth.

2 Richard Holland. = Eleanor, dau. of Ralph Harebottle, co. Durham, Knt., relict of Thomas Percy, Knt. = Ameria, dau. and heiress of Adam Kenyon of Kenyon, co. Lanc., arm., as by deed 32 Edw. III. (1358.)

- Ann, dau. of John Fitton of Gawsworth, co. Cestr.
- Richard Holland.
- Mary, mar. to Arthur, son and heir of Sir Geoffrey Poole, Knt.

- 1 Richard, died young.
- Jane, dau. of John Carrington of Carrington, Esq. = 1 Edward Holland of Denton, Esq. = 2 Cecilia, dau. of Edmund Trafford, and relict of Robert Langley, Knt.
- 2 Ranulph, died young.

- ..... dau. of ..... Reddish. = 1 Richard Holland of Denton, Esq. = 2 Margaret, dau. of Sir Rt. Langley of Agecroft, co. Lanc., Knt.
- 3 John
- 2 Edward Holland. = Ann, dau. of Edmund Gamull, Alderman of the City of Chester, and widow of John Brock of Upton.
- Elizabeth, Ann, Margaret, Frances.
- Mary, mar. John Arderne of Hawarden.
- Eleanor.

- Mary, mar..... Eccleston of Eccleston.
- Elizabeth, mar. ..... of Albrough, co. York.
- Margaret, mar. .....Brereton of Handford, co. Cestr.
- Jane, mar. Robert Dukenfield of Dukenfield, co. Cestr.
- Frances, mar. John Preston of the Manor, co. Lanc.
- Mary, mar. Hugh Hassall of Kerington, co. Salop.
- Elizabeth, mar. Thomas Croxton of Ravenscroft, co. Cestr.
- Ann, mar. Thomas Dodd of Edge, co. Cest.
- John, Thomas; both died unmar.

Richard Holland of Denton. = Katharine, dau. of William Ramsden of Langley, co York.

Edward Holland. = Ann, dau. of ..... Rigby.

- Frances Holland.
- Frances, mar. Sir Robert Eyton of Pantry Madock, co. Salop, Knt.
- Jane, mar. Thomas Cholmley of Holford, co. Cestr.
- William Holland of Heaton, co. Lanc. Esq., æt. 52, July 27, 1664. = Cecilia, dau. of Alexander Walthall of Wistaston, co. Cestr.
- Henry Holland, ob. cœlebs.

- Edward Holland of Denton, ob. ante patrem, July 1655, æt. 29. = Ann, dau. of Edward Warren of Poynton, co. Cestr., Esq., mar. in 1650, died in 1668, æt. 41.
- Frances, mar. Francis Beresford of Bentley, co. Derby.
- Ann, mar. Edward Kenyon, Rector of Prestwich, co. Lanc.
- Richard Holland, Francis Holland; both died young.
- Jane Holland.
- Elizabeth Holland, who at length became the sole sister and heiress of her brother Edward, mar. Sir John Egerton of Wrinehill and Farthinghoe, Bart., from whom Earl of Wilton is descended, who is now living, 1807.
- Edward Holland, æt. 2 years, July 27, 1664.

irregular oblong square, with two gables advanced considerably forward from the front of the main structure; it is built chiefly of timber, a foundation of masonry supporting a framework formed of vertical posts crossed by horizontal beams and having the intervening spaces filled with plaster, some of these spaces being ornamented with quatrefoils. Though the exterior retains much of its original appearance, the interior has from time to time undergone such alterations as the convenience of successive occupants has dictated. The principal room, and that most worthy of notice — the hall — is a spacious apartment nearly square, being about twenty-two feet six inches by twenty-two feet; it was originally open from the basement to the roof, giving to it a clear height of eighteen feet and a half, but is now divided into two stories by an intervening floor. The fire-place in this room is of noble proportions, being about thirteen feet four inches in width, and deeply recessed, the chimneypiece having a depressed four-centred arch with numerous round and hollow mouldings carried round the face, and ornamented on the top with a crenellated or embattled cornice. The ceiling is plain, and supported by curved braces with chamfered edges terminating in plain corbels. On one of the walls of this room is a curiously ornamented shield executed in stucco, in relief, charged with the arms of Holland, borne quarterly — 1 and 4, az. semé of fleurs-de-lis a lion rampant arg. for Holland; 2, a cross engrailed, for [?] Legh; 3, arg. on a bend sab. three lozenges of the field, for Carrington; over all a bend; — impaling, quarterly, the arms of Langley of Agecroft; 1 and 4, arg. a cockatrice sab. for Langley; 2 and 3, a mermaid with comb and mirror, for Prestwich. In the upper story is a chamber or bay formed by the projection of a gable, containing some examples of wainscot panelling now unfortunately covered with whitewash. Surrounding this room is a cornice of plaster enriched with ornamented scroll-work. The light is admitted by a large square-headed window, the full width of the bay, consisting of twelve lights transomed; on one of the lights appear the initial letters R. H., the only fragment of stained glass to be found throughout the building. There are no evidences of a conclusive nature by which we may ascertain the exact

date of the erection of Denton Hall; but, judging from its general appearance as well as from the style of ornament employed in its decoration, it would appear to have been built about the end of the sixteenth century, a supposition confirmed by the presence in the window just noticed of the initial letters R. H., and by the shield already described as bearing the arms of Langley impaled with those of Holland, thus identifying it with Richard Holland Esq. who died in 1618, having married Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Sir Robert Langley of Agecroft. Denton Hall is now occupied as a farm house.

HYDE OF DENTON.

The Hydes of Hyde and Norbury descended from Sir Robert de Hyde living in the reign of Henry III., and whose son and heir Robert married the heiress of Thomas de Norbury, continued in lineal succession until the death of Edward Hyde Esq. in the beginning of the last century, when the estates were conveyed in marriage by Ann his daughter and heiress to George Clarke Esq., Lieutenant Governor of New York, whose descendant, Edward Hyde Clarke of Hyde Hall Esq., is the present representative of the family. From this house sprang the great Earl of Clarendon, his grandfather being second son of Robert Hyde of Norbury Esq., the direct ancestor of Queen Mary and Queen Ann.

The Hydes of Denton are descended from Alexander, younger son of Robert de Hyde and the heiress of Norbury, and were settled at Denton in the reign of Edward I., where they were found in 1664, when Robert Hyde Esq. recorded a pedigree of seventeen descents.

A branch of the Hydes of Norbury and Hyde occurs at Haughton in the time of Edward IV. From Thomas Hyde of Haughton (living January 24, 1688) are traditionally said to have branched the Hydes of Ardwick. The connexion of this latter branch with Haughton township did not cease until the year 1821, in which year John Hyde Esq. of Ardwick disposed of the Higher Broom and the Haughton Green estates to Mr. John Lowe of Shepley Hall, in

whose nephew, Edward Lowe Sidebotham Esq., they are at present vested.

By his will, bearing date September 13, 1639, William Hyde of Denton, gent., "considering the infermenes of his bodie together with his old age and the frailty of this transitory life," makes the following disposition of his estate, &c. First, he willingly and with a free heart renders and gives again into the hands of his Lord God and Creator his soul and spirit, which He of His goodness gave unto him when He first fashioned him in his mother's womb, making him a living and reasonable creature, nothing doubting but that He (for His infinite mercy and goodness set forth in the precious blood of His beloved Son Jesus Christ, his only Saviour and Redeemer) will receive His soul into His kingdom, there to enjoy in His presence fulness of joy for evermore, together with the company of heavenly angels and blessed saints. And as concerning his body, even with a good will and free heart he commends it to the dust from whence it came, nothing doubting but that according to the articles of his faith, at the great day of the general resurrection when all shall appear before the judgment seat of Christ he shall then receive the same again (through that mighty power of God His Father wherewith He is able to subdue all things to Himself), not a corruptible, mortal, weak, and vile body, as now it is, but an incorruptible, immortal, strong and perfect body, like unto the glorious body of his Head Lord and Saviour Christ Jesus. And for and concerning his worldly goods, he disposes of them as follows: — To his daughter-in-law Alice Hyde £10 in gold, and his gelding which he used to ride upon, his Bible in two volumes, Mr. Hildersam's Works, his beaver brush and little cabinet, his great coffer which hath his linens in, with all the linens, and his clock that is in his parlour — all which are to be delivered to her the day after his funeral. To his grandchild Ann Hyde £200, to be paid to her at the time of her marriage (the interest meanwhile to be employed towards her maintenance and education) provided that the said Ann be dutiful and obedient and that she marry and match suitable to her portion, birth and breeding. To his grandchild William Hyde £100, the benefit thereof

to be paid unto him for the binding of him an apprentice, or otherwise to be bestowed upon him when he comes to age and years of discretion, in such sort as his (testator's) son, his father, shall think meet and convenient. To his grandchild Robert Hyde £20, the benefit to be paid to him as his (testator's) son, his father, shall decree. Also to his five grandchildren, viz., Ellinor, Katharine, Deborah, Grace, and Mary Hyde, the daughters of his son Robert Hyde, the sum of £200, equally to be divided and paid unto them for their preferment at their marriage, as an augmentation of such further portion as their father shall bestow upon them. And as to his grandchild Thomas Roberson, who went away from his master with whom he (testator) had placed him, his will and mind is that if he yet return again and betake himself to some honest calling and course of life, in such case his (testator's) son Robert Hyde shall pay as testator's gift unto him £20, provided always that if he return as a vagrant and live dishonestly and disorderly, he shall stand excluded and debarred as concerning this legacy. To his servant John Booth he gives twenty shillings in money, one of his old riding coats, and that suit he (testator) daily wears in his sickness. To every servant of his son Robert Hyde he gives half a crown each. To his son Robert Hyde he remits a debt of £50 and gives him the remainder of his goods and chattels after the payment of his debts. To the poor of Denton he gives twenty shillings; to the poor of Stockport forty shillings, to be delivered into the hands of Master Normansell and the churchwardens, by them to be dispensed. He constitutes his son Robert Hyde sole executor, assuring himself that his said son will see this his will truly performed and his body decently buried in the chancel of Stockport Church, according to his place, rank, and calling. Witnesses — Thomas Brown, John Booth, Isabel Oldham. Proved at Chester January 8, 1639.

The inventory of his "goods and chattels," priced and valued at his death, gives a total of £898 4s. 4d. Imp. one gelding £8. It. In husbandry mare, £10 8s. 6d. It. In armour, £8. It. In two pairs of virginals, £3. It. In two green carpets, £1 10s. It. In eighteen quishions, £1. It. In debts owing to him, £564, &c.

He married Eleanor, daughter of John Molineux Esq., and dying September 30, 1639, was succeeded by his son Robert, who, at the time of his father's death, was about thirty-five years old. This representative of the family was, like his neighbour Col. Holland, a zealous Puritan, actively participating in the religious controversy of the day. He took sides with the Parliament against Charles I.; and when in 1642 Lord Strange laid siege to Manchester, intending to take possession of it in the King's name, Mr. Hyde was one of the neighbouring gentry who armed their servants and dependents and marched to the relief of the town, assisting in the discomfiture of the Royalists. During the progress of the siege he successfully combated the proposition of Col. Holland, who advised the surrender of the town.

In 1643 he was appointed by ordinance of parliament a commissioner to investigate charges preferred against delinquent ministers, and "for the punishment of scandalous clergymen." In this capacity he is alluded to by the Rev. Henry Newcome, who relates an amusing story illustrating his zeal in the discharge of the duties of this painful office: — "November 3, 1665, Mr. Hyde had sent to speak with me; and I went this day to Stockport to meet him, and we sat together two or three hours. His business was to tell me of the fearful things he heard of my dear brother Steele. It was upon his diary being taken off him and some passages in it that they interpreted to the worst of actions, as this — that such a day he went to such a place on a carnal account, and God turned it to a spiritual. This they interpreted to be some woman design, and no other. The truth was, he went to a fair to have bought a cow. He missed of that, and went home with a gentlewoman, and they had some opportunity for the soul together. Now this was formed into a dreadful story and told to Mr. Hyde, and he told me. I gave him satisfaction as far as I knew."[1]

[1] Newcome's *Autobiography*, (Chetham Series,) p. 154. Calamy refers (*Abridgment*, vol. ii. p. 708) to this imputed delinquency of Mr. Steele, but makes no mention of Mr. Hyde's share in the investigation. "He [Steele] met with much trouble on account of his nonconformity, particularly in 1665 when he was setting out for

In 1645 Mr. Hyde was elected a lay member of the First Lancashire Classical Presbytery, which held its sittings in Manchester and exercised judicial authority in matters spiritual throughout the parishes of Manchester, Prestwich, Eccles, Flixton, and Ashton.

His wife was Alice, third daughter and coheiress of Thomas Crompton of Crompton Esq. in the county of Lancaster, and by her he had a numerous family. Two of his daughters were married to Presbyterian ministers, viz. Ann, who became the wife of the Rev. William Bell, minister of Huyton; and Katharine, wife of the Rev. William Meeke, minister of Salford Chapel. He survived his wife and many of his children, and dying in 1684 in the eightieth year of his age, was interred within the precincts of Denton Chapel.

By his will, dated July 10, 1682, Robert Hyde of Denton in the parish of Manchester and county of Lancaster Esq., being aged in body but of sound and perfect memory, praise be given to Almighty God for the same, calling to mind the uncertain estate of this transitory life, and that all flesh must yield to death when it shall please God to call — and being desirous to settle things in order that so peace, unity, and good agreement may be and remain among his children and relations after his decease, disposes of his estate, &c., as follows: — First and principally, being penitent and sorry from the bottom of his heart for his sins past, most humbly desiring forgiveness of the same, he gives and commits his soul unto Almighty God his Creator, assuredly believing that he shall receive full pardon and free remission of all his sins, and be saved by the precious death and merits of his blessed Saviour and Redeemer, Christ Jesus,—and his body to the earth from whence it was taken, to be buried (in his burying-place in Denton Chapel) in such decent and Christian manner as his executors shall determine — in certain hope of a joy-

London; he was then stopt and searched by a warrant from the neighbouring justices under colour of the report of a plot; and finding nothing to accuse him of they seized his almanack in which he kept his diary for that year, and it not being written very legibly, they made what malicious readings and comments they pleased upon it to his great wrong and reproach, though to all sober people it discovered him to be a man that kept strict watch over his own heart and was a great husband of his time."

ful resurrection to eternal life. And as to the settling of his temporal estate, and such goods and chattels and credits as it hath pleased God far above his deserts to bestow upon him, he orders, gives, and disposes of the same as follows: that is to say, whereas he the said Robert Hyde and Alice his late wife, deceased, being seised of an inheritance of one-eighteenth part of several messuages, cottages, tenements, lands and premises, situated in Crompton, Oldham, and Whetston Hill, in the county of Lancaster, did in and by an indenture bearing date August 14, 1660, convey and assure unto William Bell of Huyton in the county of Lancaster clerk, John Wordsworth of Swayth Hall in the county of York gent., William Hyde and Samuel Hyde (his sons), Thomas Lees of Denton and John Johnson of Haughton in the county of Lancaster yeomen, all the aforesaid one-eighteenth part to such uses, intents and purposes as is therein mentioned. In which indenture there is a certain limitation that they the said William Bell, &c., shall and may, at any time after the decease of the said Robert Hyde and Alice his wife, grant, bargain and sell all and every the said one-eighteenth part unto the use of any person whatsoever for the best price or prices; and the moneys raised thereby shall be disposed of and distributed unto and amongst the daughters of the said Robert Hyde and his wife Alice which shall be living at the decease of the survivor of the two, which shall be unmarried and not preferred, or if married and her or their portion not paid at the time of the death of the said Robert Hyde, in such proportion as is to be determined by the said Robert Hyde during his life or of Alice his wife. And whereas he the said Robert Hyde in and by a certain indenture under his hand and seal bearing date September 30, 1652, and made between him the said Robert Hyde of one part, and Robert Dukinfield of Dukinfield in the county of Chester Esquire, John Ardern of Hawarden Esq., John Jackson of Bubinill in the county of Derby gent., and Cornelius Jackson of Bubinill aforesaid gent., of the other part; in which said indenture of conveyance there is a certain proviso, covenant and agreement, that it shall and may be lawful for the said Robert Hyde at any time during his (testator's) natural life,

by any act or deed in writing, or by his last will and testament, to give, grant, limit or bequeath unto any person whatsoever one or more annual rent or sum not exceeding £50 a year to be issuing out of all and every the premises in the said indenture last recited included, (the several estates of the said Alice Hyde and Mary Hyde for and during the several continuances thereof only excepted,) and the same to commence immediately from and after the death of him the said Robert Hyde, to be paid at such times and in such manner as to him may seem fit and as shall be expressed in this his will and testament, for and during such time and until that thereby or thereupon there shall or may be received or had any sum or sums of money not exceeding in the whole the sum of £500. Now for the settling and disposing of his temporal estate before mentioned and in his power reserved, together with all the rest of his goods and chattels, he orders and bequeaths the same as follows:—First, his debts, funeral expenses and legacies shall be paid out of his whole estate: and forasmuch as he has already advanced and preferred with considerable portions and sums of money all his sons and daughters (except his two daughters Grace and Elizabeth Hyde) he therefore gives and bequeaths to the said Grace and Elizabeth his loving daughters all and every the abovementioned one-eighteenth part of the said messuages, &c., and all the moneys to be raised thereby, equally to be divided; and also he bequeaths to his said daughters Grace and Elizabeth all the £500 before herein mentioned, to be paid in yearly sums of £50 during the term of ten years next ensuing after his decease, at the feast days of the nativity of St. John Baptist and St. Martin the Bishop in winter. To his loving son Robert Hyde he bequeaths his signet of gold, his silver tobacco box with his coat of arms on it, and his pocket pistol: also it is his will and mind that his said son Robert shall have and enjoy all the presses which are fixed in his (testator's) mansion-house, the couch chair in the hall, the couch chair in the parlour, the three tables in the hall, the brewing pan, and all the chairs and stools in the parlour and hall (after his daughters Grace and Elizabeth have taken unto themselves two of the best); also it is his will and mind that his son Robert Hyde

shall have all his leases, rolls of his pedigree and coat of arms belonging to his estate, during his natural life, and after his death, in default of heirs male, he bequeaths the same to his son William Hyde during his life; also it is his will that his son Robert Hyde shall have such of his books as he hath need of at a reasonable price when they are to be sold. Also he gives to his son William Hyde his silver signet and all his plate buttons, and £5 of money, and the counterpart of the conveyance which he (testator) has in his keeping. Also he gives to his daughter Grace his other silver signet sent to him by Mr. John Newton, and his watch. Also he gives to his grandchildren five shillings apiece. Also to his servants three shillings and fourpence apiece. All the rest of his goods and chattels he gives to his said loving daughters Grace and Elizabeth, equally to be divided. Lastly, he appoints his trusty and well-beloved son William Hyde to be executor. Proved at Chester June 19, 1684.

The inventory of his "goods and chattels," taken at his decease, returns their estimated value at £323 8s. 6d. It includes the following items: — Imp. In purse and apparel £15. It. In silver plate £22. It. In Books £20. It. A watch, 6s. 8d. It. A gold signet £2. It. Virginals, 6s. 8d.

He was succeeded in his estates by his eldest surviving son Robert Hyde, born in 1634, who in 1694 was summoned as one of the grand jury empanelled at Manchester for the trial of certain influential persons implicated in the Lancashire plot in favour of the abdicated monarch James II. During his father's lifetime he had married Mary, the daughter of John Jackson of Bubnell in the county of Derby Esq. She died in 1698, and was buried (July 22) in Denton Chapel. Mr. Hyde survived his wife about a year, and dying in 1699, was also buried (October 28) at Denton, leaving an only child, a daughter, his sole heiress, who, by her marriage with Sir Ralph Assheton Bart. of Middleton, conveyed the Denton estate of the Hydes into that family.

By this marriage Sir Ralph had no issue, but by a former matrimonial alliance with Mary, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Vavasour of Spaldington in the county of York Esq., he left issue

three daughters, Ann, Mary, and Katharine, his coheiresses, amongst whom, at his death in 1716, his extensive estates, with the exception of the paternal estate at Middleton, (this, together with the Baronetcy, devolving upon his nephew Ralph Assheton of Allerton Gledhow, afterwards Sir Ralph Assehton of Middleton) were divided. The Denton estate of Sir Ralph, acquired by his marriage with the heiress of the Hydes, fell to the lot of his daughter Katharine, who became the wife of Thomas Lister Esq. of Arnoldsbiggin in the county of York. The issue of this marriage was a son, Thomas Lister Esq. M.P., of Gisburn Park, who in 1748 married Beatrix, daughter of Jessop Hulton Esq. of Hulton Park, and dying November 28, 1761, left an only son, Thomas Lister, created in 1797 Lord Ribblesdale.

By his will, dated September 25, 1759, Thomas Lister of Gisburn Park gives and devises all his lands, tenements, and hereditaments in Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cheshire to his executors and executrix upon trust that after his decease they shall proceed to raise upon the said property, by sale or mortgage, the sum of £5,000 charged by his the said testator's late mother [Katharine Ashton] for the use of his younger brother and sisters, by a deed of appointment therein mentioned; and upon further trust that they shall convey all and singular the premises, or such parts as shall remain undisposed of, to the use of Thomas Lister, son of the said Thomas Lister the testator, and the heirs male of his body. He names as his executors Beatrix his wife, Nicholas Winckley Esq., and Edward Parker of Browsholme Esq.

In pursuance, therefore, of the terms of the will, it was witnessed by an indenture bearing date June 24, 1762—That in consideration of the sum of £3,000, Beatrix Lister, Nicholas Winckley, and Robert Parker, grant, bargain, sell, alien, release and confirm to William Hulton of Hulton Park in the county of Lancaster Esq., his heirs and assigns, all that capital messuage or mansion-house called Denton Hall or Hyde Hall, situate, lying and being in Denton in the parish of Manchester, with the several closes or closures known as The Six Acres, The Four Acres, The Little Marsh, The Meadow Hey, The Corn Hey, The Great Marsh and

Drawn & Lithog.d by James Croston

Rowley & Brown Lith.rs Manch.r

Hyde Hall,

IN DENTON.

Wood, The Pingot, The Great Field and Wood, The Lower Field and Big Croft, The Great Rosliffe, The Little Rosliffe, The Holt, The Little Warth, The Great Warth and Wood, The Hop Yard, The Wash House Meadow, the Kiln Meadow, The Horse Close and Wood, containing in the whole by common estimation 118a. 2r. 26p. of the measure used thereabouts, now in the possession of William Knight or his assign, to hold the same to the use of the said William Hulton, his heirs and assigns for ever.

From the general transfer of the lands in question were excepted two closes of land in Denton, called the Chapel Fields, the reversion and inheritance of which, subject to the said William Knight's lease, was conveyed to William Bromiley.

In 1813 the estate passed by purchase from the Hulton family to Mr. Francis Woodiwiss of Manchester, at whose death in 1830 it descended to his daughter Miss Mary Woodiwiss, the present possessor.

Hyde Hall (in Denton), though not presenting so perfect an example of the ancient manor-house as Denton Hall, retains, nevertheless, sufficient traces of antiquity to render it worthy the notice of the archæologist, and deserving of a more close investigation than it seems hitherto to have obtained. It has been erected at two distinct periods; the oldest portion — that comprising the principal entertaining rooms — is of considerable antiquity, evidently dating so far back as the sixteenth century. It is built in the picturesque half-timbered style so characteristic of the period. The framework is formed of timber, consisting of a number of heavy oak beams resting upon a foundation of masonry and crossed in a lateral direction by others of the same character, the interstices or "panes," as they are technically termed, formed by this plaiding of the woodwork, filled with a plaster or composition of mud and clay, additional support being obtained from substantial buttresses of stone in three and four stages placed at intervals along the walls. On the east side is a projecting bay of two stories, the basement originally lighted by windows on each side, but since filled up, their place supplied by a single square window divided by mullions into three lights and transomed;

The Genealogie of the verie ancient Familie of Hyde of Denton,

WITHIN THE COUNTIE PALATINE OF LANCASTER,

Faithfullye collected and gathered out of diverse ancient evidences and deeds, with seales and other authentical records, beinge extracted and reduced into method by the paines and industrie of William Vernon, Gent., Ao. 1657.

Mathew de Hida=

Sir Robert de Hida, Lord of Hyde and Norbury= sans date.

Sir Robert Hide, Lord of Hide and Norburie 5 Hen. 3 [1221]. = Margaret, d. of Robt. Stokeport Baron of Stokeport.

Alan de Hide.

Richard Hide 44 H. 3 [1260].

John Hyde, Lord of Hyde 13 Edw. 2 [1320]. = Helen.....

Alexander Hyde= az. a chevron bet. 3 lozenges or, a crescent for diff.

Richard Hyde.

Emma Hyde, 44 H. 3 [1260].

Isabel, d. of William Lord of Bagulegh 10 E. 2 [1317] & 31 E. 3 [1358.] = John Hyde.

John Hide of Denton= Ellen ..... 11 Ed. 2 [1318] and 7 Ed. 3 [1334]. 11 E. 2 [1318].

John Hyde, Lord of Norbury 35 E. 3 [1362] az. a chevron between 3 lozenges or. = Margaret, d. of Sir John Davenport. Ar. a chevron bet. 3 cross crosslets fitché sab.

Richard Hyde, 5 E. 3 [1322] & 42 E. 3 [1369]. = Matilda, d. of Roger Vernon of Warford, 5 Edw. 3 [1332]. Az. a chevron bet. 3 garbs or.

Hugh Hyde.

Richard Hyde, 42 E. 3 [1369] and 19 R. 2 [1396].

John Hyde, 19 Rich. 2 [1396].

Nicholas Hyde=Isabel, widow of Geoffrey Shakerley, 36 Hen. 6 [1458].

Raphe Hyde, 27 H. 6 [1449] and 11 E. 4 [1472]. = Margt, d. of Robt. Dokinfield, 18 E. 4 [1479]. Arms of Dokinfield impaled with Hyde.

John Hyde 15 H. 6 [1437].

Nicholas Hyde.

Raphe Hyde, son and heir, 7 E. 4 [1468] s.p. = Agnes, d. of John Arderne of Harden. Arms of Hyde impaled with Arderne.

Wm. Hyde, 18 Ed. 4 [1479] & 16 H. 7 [1501]. = Ellen, d. of Rd. Mostean. Arg. a chev. bet. 3 trefoils slipt. sab. imp. with Hyde.

Thomas Brown 15 H. 8 [1524]. = Margaret, daughter of Edmund Chetham, who died 1552. Arms of Hyde impaled with Chetham, viz. arg. a griffin segreant gu. within a border having ten bezants. = Nicholas Hyde, 2 H. 8 [1511].

William Hyde=Katharine, d. of Alex. Elcock of Stockport. Az. a cock or.

1 Wm. H. s.p.

2 Richard H. s.p.

1 Ann H.

4 Nich. H.

5 John H.

Margt. H.=Roger Kendal.

Rd. Assheton=Isab. H. of Shepley.

4 Katharine Hyde=Roger Hopwood.

Robert Hyde= 9 Eliz. [1567]. = Ann, d. of John Arderne Esq.

Margaret H. mar. Robt. Booth of Harrop Edge in Matley.

Wm. Hyde= ob. 30 Sept. 15 Charles 1 [1639]. = Eleanor, d. of John Molineux. Az. a cross moline or.

Robt. H. s.p.

Mary H. Margt. H.

Edward H. Nich. H. s.p.

Peter H. s.p. Paul H. s.p.

Susan H. m. to Alexr. Newton of Newton.

Robert Hyde of Denton Esq. aged 35 at his father's death.= Alice, third daughter and coheiress of Thomas Crompton of Crompton, living in 1657. Gu. a fess wavy between 3 lions ramp. or.

1 Wm. H. sp.

2 Robert Hyde= Jackson. Arg. a lion pass. gu. in chief of the 2d, 3 battleaxes erect = Mary, d. of John

3 Wm. H. 4 Samuel H.

Ann H. m. Wm. Bell, Rector of Heyton.

Eleanor H. died April 18, 1650.

4 Deborah H. 5 Grace H. 6 Mary H.

3 Katharine H.=William Meeke, clerk.

7 Jane H.

8 Alice H.

9 Elizabeth H. died Nov. 19, 1645. 10 Martha H. died July 16, 1652.

11 Elizabeth H.

the upper story of the bay projects somewhat beyond the lower, a peculiarity frequently to be observed in timber houses erected during the later period of this style, and is lighted by a transomed window carried round three sides of the bay, corresponding with the one formerly existing in the basement, the whole terminating in an overhanging gable, at one time having had the addition of a barge-board and hip-knob, both of which have now disappeared. The chief entrance is by a covered porch at the west front, running the entire depth of the building. This porch as well as that portion of the hall immediately adjacent towards the south, is constructed of dressed masonry, and has been erected at a period subsequent to that part of the building already described, as is evidenced by the date 1625 which appears in front. The entrance gateway has an obtuse pointed arch, and is furnished with two massive oak doors well studded with iron nails, one placed at the advanced part of the porch and the other at its junction with the main walls. Over the gateway in a panel is a shield bearing the arms of the Hydes, and beneath, the date 1625; above this is the porch chamber, lighted in front by a large square window of five lights divided horizontally by a transom, and on either side by a single-light window transomed, the whole terminating in a parapet with moulded coping, and separated by a plain string course. The interior has undergone considerable changes since its erection, and presents little to call for observation if we except the principal apartment, the hall, which still remains in a tolerable state of preservation, though appropriated, in the hands of the present tenant, a farmer, to purposes widely differing from those to which it was first applied. It is of fair proportions, being about twenty-one feet by twenty-four feet, and almost ten feet in height, lighted on the west by two modern windows of two lights, and originally on the east by an oriel or bay, already noticed in the description of the exterior. The walls of this bay, as well as of the hall itself, are covered with wainscot disposed in panels. The oriel, that almost inseparable feature of a banqueting-hall, now forms a separate apartment, being divided from the hall by a partition of oak, and entered from it by an open doorway. The fireplace, deeply

recessed, is comparatively of large proportions, being upwards of eleven feet in length. The ceiling is plain, divided into compartments by longitudinal and transverse beams finished with a plain chamfer upon the edge. The chamber over the hall is of corresponding size and also contains some examples of wainscot panelling. The floors of this room and the passage leading to it are of polished oak. The outbuildings are very extensive, surrounding three sides of a spacious court, the hall occupying the fourth side; these, however, for the most part have been erected within the last few years, a portion only on the south side being of older date, the initial letters $_{R}{}^{H}{}_{M}$ and the date 1687 appearing over one of the doors.

The arms at the foot of this pedigree are 1st and 4th HYDE az. a chevron between three lozenges or, differenced by a crescent, quartered with DENTON, arg. two bars gu. in chief three cinquefoils sa.; 2nd and 3rd CROMPTON, gu. a fess wavy between three lions rampant or. This quartering of Denton with Hyde might seem to imply some early intermarriage between the two families, but of this no evidence has survived. Crest: on a wreath a helmet—above all an eagle standing with wings erect sa. beaked and membered or.

The original pedigree, which is certified April 15, 1658, by William Ryley, Norroy King of Arms, was in 1771 in the possession of Mr. Robert Hyde of Manchester.

In the reign of Elizabeth, among the small landed proprietors in the township was Adam Hulton, representative of a family of great antiquity in the county, holding lands in Denton at a much earlier period than the reign indicated. From the Hulton pedigree it appears that Cecilia, daughter of David de Hulton, received a grant of lands from Alexander de Denton as early as the eighth year of Edward I. (1279). Denton does not appear to have been at any time the residence of this family, whose principal estates were situated at Farnworth and Over Hulton. From the inquisition post mortem of Richard Hulton in the 24 Henry VII. (1508), we find that he died seised of the manor of Farnworth, &c., and also of lands in Denton; and from similar inquisitions of William Hulton (1555),

Adam Hulton (1597), and William Hulton (1613), the same estates are seen to have been successively inherited by his descendants. In 1597, when the waste lands of Denton were enclosed, Adam Hulton received a grant of 46 acres as a landed proprietor in the township. In 1645 the landed interest of the family seems temporarily to have ceased, one George Lees holding himself in that year responsible for "the Chapel-wage anciently paid by Mr. Hulton's tenants," implying a transfer of the property. About the middle of the last century their connexion with Denton was resumed by the purchase, on the part of the then representative, William Hulton Esq., of the Dane Heyes and Hyde Hall estates, both situated in the township, and together of considerable extent. This property they did not long retain, having conveyed it by sale in 1813 to Mr. Francis Woodiwiss; from which time the Hultons have finally ceased from the ranks of landed proprietors in Denton township.

Another family possessed at an early period of lands in Denton, was that of Hulme of Hulme Hall in the adjacent township of Reddish. Lawrence Hulme resided at Hulme Hall in the 8 Henry V. (1421). In the 2 and 3 Philip and Mary (1554-5) Johan Holme, (for thus the name was anciently written,) widow of Nicholas Holme, prosecutes in the Duchy Court at Lancaster Ambrose Asmall and George Asmall for forcible entry and tortious possession of lands and tenements called Holmes More in Denton. In the 8 Elizabeth (1565) Robert Holme cites Thomas Holme before the same court for detention of title deeds of messuages and lands in Reddish and Denton, pledged for security of money lent. As a landowner in the township, Robert Holme received in 1597 a grant of six acres of the waste lands of Denton, then first enclosed. From the inquisition post mortem of William Holme in the 14 Charles I. (1639) it appears that he died seised of lands at Hulme in Reddish and also in Denton. He was father of William Hulme the munificent founder of the exhibitions at Brazenose College, Oxford, which bear his name. By his will, dated October 20, 1691, the latter leaves the reversion of his estates to certain trustees, who shall pay the annual rents amongst "such four of the poor sort of Bachelors of Arts taking

such degree in Brazenose College, Oxford, as from time to time shall resolve to continue to reside there by the space of four years after such degree taken." The number of exhibitioners on this foundation is now fifteen, owing to the greatly increased value of the bequest, each of whom receives £150 per annum. The extent of land in Denton in the hands of the Hulmian trustees is about fifty-seven acres statute measure, producing to the charity in 1815 an annual rent of £60 18s.

The family of Barlow of Barlow Hall near Manchester was also in the reign of Elizabeth numbered amongst the smaller landed proprietors in the township. From the inquisition post mortem of Alexander Barlow in the 27 Elizabeth (1584) we find that he died seised of an estate called Barlow Hall and of lands in Denton and Houghton-infra-Wythington. By reason of the absence of dates in the pedigree of this family, and from the constant recurrence of the same Christian name in successive generations, it is somewhat difficult to identify the individual member referred to in the inquisition. It would probably be the son of Ellis Barlow Esq. and Ann, daughter of Otes Reddish of Reddish Esq. He married Elizabeth, daughter of George Legh of West Hall in the county of Lancaster Esq., a younger son of Legh of High-Legh. His sister Margaret was the wife of Edward Stanley third Earl of Derby. From a later inquisition of Sir Alexander Barlow, of the date 18 James I. (1620), probably the grandson of the last mentioned Alexander, we learn that he died seised of the same estates. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Parker, Lord Morley and Monteagle, and was brother of William Barlow D.D., Dean of Chester and afterwards Bishop of Lincoln.

At the commencement of the seventeenth century Alexander Reddish of Reddish Esq. was a landowner in Denton. He was the son of John Reddish Esq. and Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Sir Robert Langley of Agecroft. His interest in the township appears to have been but small, since but one acre of the Denton waste lands was assigned to him at the period of their being enclosed in 1597. His inquisition bears date 11 James I. (1613).

Until the reign of Henry VIII. Denton was dependent on the mother Church of Manchester for whatever spiritual supervision it enjoyed. Such of the inhabitants as were able to frequent their parish church would resort thither, and others would trust to the stated though precarious visits of the clergy belonging to that church. Perhaps, as being nearer, the ministrations at Stockport and Ashton might attract some. In early times, when ecclesiastical structures were less numerous and the population more widely scattered, each church became a missionary station, from which, as a centre, the clergy attached thereto made periodical visits in a circuit of the entire parish, oftentimes many miles in extent; but as this was the suggestion of necessity rather than convenience, in process of time chapels of ease sprang up, at first probably supplied by the clergy of the parish church, but afterwards, as the piety of individuals led to their partial endowment, by a resident ministry possessing all but independent jurisdiction. Of this latter description was Denton Chapel, erected in 1531–2, by the local families, the Hollands and the Hydes. As now seen, it is substantially the same as when first built, being the only one of the more ancient Chapels in Manchester parish still retaining those original architectural features which it is probable all once had in common. It approaches in form that of a parallelogram, and consists of a nave and chancel, the latter of very scanty proportions and of recent date, added about the year 1800 by the Rev. W. P. Greswell, who, on entering upon his Incumbency, found neither chancel nor communion table; from which circumstance he drew the inference that the Presbyterian form of administering the Holy Communion had continued to prevail there up to that late period. The vestry is on the north side, and a bell-turret surmounts the western gable. The chapel is constructed chiefly of timber, and in an ancient document in the patron's possession, is said to have been framed in Hibbert wood, — a low footing or basement of stone supporting a strong framework of that material, with upright posts, divided into squares by horizontal beams extending the length of the building, the whole braced at intervals diagonally, and the spaces filled with plaster flush with the outer surface of the wood-

work. The roof is for the period rather acute in pitch, and, as is customary in this style, extends considerably beyond the walls in what are termed dripping eaves. The gables of the nave and chancel are protected by barge-boards pierced with trefoils and having hip-knobs and pendants.

The interior is divided into two equal parts by an avenue running from east to west, the north side being originally appropriated to the exclusive use of the inhabitants of Denton, and the south side to the use of the inhabitants of Haughton and Hyde. It is filled with plain high-backed pews of no great antiquity, if we except three or four on the north side adjoining the chancel, which are evidently much older than the others and probably date from the foundation of the Chapel; some of these bear the arms of the Hyde family. On the 6th of October, 1768, a citation was issued for the re-pewing of the south side of the chapel, "the seats, stalls and forms therein having by length of time become old, ruinous, and decayed,"—the proceeds of the sale of any additional sittings thus secured to go towards defraying the cost of the alteration.

In 1728 a gallery was erected at the west end of the chapel, the north side of which was to be devoted to "the free use of the present set of psalm-singers," and the south side to be appropriated as follows: one pew to be assigned to the minister's house, and the rest to "such persons as will subscribe the largest sums towards augmenting the minister's salary." A faculty was not obtained until September 11, 1749. The front of the gallery exhibits some good examples of panel-work carving in the arabesque style, but these were doubtless intended for other purposes, and may probably have formed the ends of the old stalls or pews before the re-pewing of the chapel just alluded to. The roof, originally open, was in 1726 concealed by a flat inner roof, but was restored to its original state by Mr. Greswell about the year 1820; it is plain and simple in its construction, divided into bays by horizontal tie-beams resting upon upright wall-pieces, and strengthened on either side by curved bracing ribs with spandrels springing from plain corbels. From the upper side of the tie-beam rise struts which serve to brace the principal rafters, the

spaces formed between these rafters and the purlins being quatrefoiled. The pulpit affixed to the north wall, about midway, is of dark oak; one of the supporters bears the date 1659.

With the exception of that towards the east, the windows are small and of irregular form. They were originally, as it seems, filled with stained glass, much still remaining, but so fragmentary and transposed, that all attempts to decipher the inscriptions are unavailing. They are plain and square-headed, and placed without much regard to regularity, eight on the north side and six on the south. The chancel is lighted by a four-centred window of five lights partially filled with stained glass, apparently monumental in its design. In the upper part of the centre light is the figure of an angel holding in the hand a sceptre to which is attached a legend bearing an inscription. Below this is the bust of what appears to have been a female figure, and an imperfect inscription in black-letter . . . . . armig'i et Katharine fenestrā fieri fecerū. Still lower is a shield divided quarterly, the first, second and fourth quarters of which cannot be deciphered; on the third quarter is a fret, and over all a bend charged with three escallop shells and a mullet (for difference); surmounting the shield, on a helmet, is an imperfect crest, the head and part of the wing of a bird. Below this is another shield, arg. on a chevron between three lozenges sab. a crescent of the field; (the arms of Hyde in all respects save the tinctures.) In the upper portion of the fourth light, that immediately to the right of the centre, is the sacred monogram in yellow and gold, within a circle. Beneath is a portion of a figure habited in a robe of scarlet. Below this is a shield charged with the arms of Hyde, azure a chevron between three lozenges or. Still lower is a female figure with hands uplifted as if in supplication, and kneeling before an altar upon which is displayed an open book; the figure is draped in purple, and from the mouth issues a legend with the inscription, "Miserere mei." There is a counterpart of this in the lower part of the second light, the position of the figure only reversed so as to confront the one just described. Here too is a shield divided paleways and filled with fragments of stained glass,

but apparently having no heraldic signification. About the centre of the light are the remains of a figure robed in white, the head surrounded by a nimbus, holding in the hand a palm branch; and above it the arms of Holland, a lion rampant arg. ducally crowned or. The first and fifth lights are plain, containing only the initial letters R. and M., corresponding with members of the two local families whose names have been already enumerated. One other disjointed inscription may serve to complete the description of the east window. ..... Hyde et Katr et filiorū suorū qui ..... anno Dñi ..... quingentessimo trecessimo secūdo.

The inscriptions in the windows on the north side are as follows:

..... Jahane uxoris sue | ..... ardi loppri et Radu
..... Katharine uxoris sue | .... an hac da Nicollai Smith Robrt Smithe

The south windows contain the arms of the Holland family rudely executed, and an inscription as follows ..... et Cristiane uxoris sue animab; ..... Dñi mo cccco xxxi.

The principal dimensions of the chapel, externally, are, length of nave 83 feet 6 inches, width 23 feet 9 inches; chancel 8 feet 4½ inches long and 7 feet 1 inch deep. Height of wall to the spring of the roof 14 feet 10 inches, to the apex of the roof 21 feet 1 inch. The chapel yard is raised some three feet above the road, surrounded by a low stone wall, and is entered on the east side by a gateway, and by a quaint-looking covered lych-gate on the south.

Denton Chapel is dedicated to St. James, as by a curious coincidence are also the adjacent Chapels of Gorton and Birch. The late Mr. Greswell on insufficient grounds changed the name of the patron saint to Saint Lawrence, a change suggested by the circumstance of the village wakes being held on St. Lawrence's day, and the admitted connexion which is everywhere found to subsist between the patron saint of the church and the festival in question; but it must be remembered that wakes have been much interfered with by acts of parliament, especially in Puritan times, and also that the transition from the old to the new style of computation has tended much to disturb the accuracy of such calculations. Ecton (*Thesaurus Rerum*

Ecclesiasticarum, p. 579) and Bacon (*Liber Regis*, p. 1235) both agree in committing it to the guardianship of St. James, and their testimony must be regarded as conclusive, especially when opposed to mere inference and conjecture.

It is named with the other chapels of Manchester parish, Stretford, Chorlton, Didsbury, Gorton, Newton, and Blackley, in certain directions issued in 1573 by the Archbishop of York and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the object of which was to enjoin upon the Warden and Fellows of Manchester a constant residence within the parish of Manchester and diligent preaching every Sunday in the church at Manchester or in one of the several chapels above enumerated.

From an inquisition taken at Manchester on Monday June 16, 1650, before certain commissioners appointed by the Commonwealth, it appears that "in the township of Withington are the four chapels of Didsbury, Chorlton, Birch, and Denton, which chapels are fit to be made a parish," and that "Reddish having no church or chapel, and the inhabitants resorting to Stockport, Denton, and Gorton, it is fit to have a church or chapel erected between it and Heaton Norris."[1] These suggestions were never acted upon.

To the judicious repairs and restorations of Mr. Greswell the continuance of Denton Chapel in its present form must be ascribed. When appointed to the Incumbency in 1791, he found numerous sky-lights and other apertures in the roof, caused by the wind displacing the slates, through which the rain and snow found access; and this to such an extent as to cause long strips of the ceiling to give way, and to fall, to the serious interruption of the services and the discomfort of the minister and people. At this period, through age and decay, the walls of the edifice resembled a riddle. Mr. Greswell recommended the roof to be taken off and reslated, the horizontal ceiling to be removed, and the chapel left as he conjectured it had originally been, open to the roof. He further suggested that the exterior should be cemented, and that internally upright beams should be placed against the old walls, that these

[1] *MSS. Bibliotheca Lamb.*, fol. 196.

should be filled in with lath and plaster, the old walls being thus encased. The labour of restoration having been commenced, the vibration attendant on fixing the beams caused sundry coats of white-wash to separate from the walls, when, to the astonishment of the workmen, several words in old English characters were discovered, and on further search under the superintendence of Mr. Greswell, the whole history of Dives and Lazarus, taken from an older version of the Scriptures than the authorised edition now in use, was discovered written upon the walls. This inscription still remains, but of course concealed by the recent plaster to which the walls were subjected.

Two heraldic shields, with the names, Hulton de Hulton and Hyde de Denton, were also at the same time discovered at the east end of the chapel, on removing from a panel the coating of plaster whereon in modern times the Decalogue had been inscribed.

Deceived by false information (Britton and Brayley's *Beauties of England and Wales*, vol. ix. p. 288) Mr. Greswell has been led to assign to the structure an earlier date of foundation than the facts of the case warrant, and has perpetuated the error by an inscription which he has caused to be placed over the south door of the chapel: "Strvxit Ricardus Holland de Denton armiger, anno Edvardi IV. septimo; restitvit Patroni et diversorum liberalitas annis MDCCCXVI—MDCCCXXXIX." As already stated, the chapel was indisputably built in the year 1531–2.

The communion plate now in use is altogether modern with the exception of the cup, which is inscribed, "A communion cup given to Denton Chappel by M^ris^ Mary Done." This benefactor was Mary, daughter and coheiress of Sir John Done of Utkington, and sister to Eleanor, wife of Ralph Arderne of Harden Esq., who was interred at Denton Chapel in 1666. She was for sometime resident with her sister at Harden, and became in 1636 the wife of John Crewe Esq. Her monument in Tarporley Church, where she was buried, describes her as "a blessed peacemaker, full of good works and almsdeeds which she did to the bodies and souls of many." There is also a cup of more ancient design and of ruder execution,

now long disused, but still included with the other articles of communion plate. It is of silver, thin and apparently beaten into shape, the marks of the hammer still remaining. From its general appearance it is probable that it was associated with the services of the chapel in the earliest times. An inscription, but without date, encircles the outer circumference: THE COPPE FOR THE LORDS TABLE.

In a turret surmounting the apex of the western gable hangs the bell, inscribed with the names, Robert Bridghouse and John Hardy, chapelwardens, and the date 1715. The initials A. R., which also appear, indicate it to have been cast at the foundry of the celebrated Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester, who before the year 1684 had brought the art of bell-founding to great perfection, and whose descendants in succession continued the business down to 1774, when the family had cast the enormous number of 3,594 bells. They were succeeded at Gloucester by Messrs. Mears, who have also a foundry at Whitechapel, London. This, however, is not the earliest notice we have of a bell in connexion with Denton Chapel. The Chapel registers under the year 1692 contain an entry very circumstantially made of the expense of a bell then first hung, and which was cast from the broken metal of one yet more ancient; so that the present bell is at least the third which has summoned the inhabitants to the house of prayer.

As early as the first year of the reign of Queen Mary (1553) a commission was issued from the Duchy Court of Lancaster in the name of the Queen, on behalf of Edward Parker, addressed to Sir Richard Sherburne Knt. and others, reciting a former commission of the 7th of Edward VI., which was to inquire, search, and survey what lands, tenements, bells, chalices, plate, jewels, stocks of kine, sheep, money and other things, belonging to chantries in the county of Lancaster, which ought to have come to the said king by the force of the act of parliament in that case made and provided, and to receive and deliver the same to Edward Parker to his majesty's use; but that divers bells in several parishes (and amongst others in Manchester parish that at Denton is named) had not come to his hands by virtue

of such former commission, the parishioners still retaining the same; the object therefore of her majesty's present commission was to direct inquiry to be made of what bells so remained in the parishioners' hands according to an inventory with such commission.[1]

One of the most curious and interesting features of the Chapel remains yet to be described — the small box or pew built to the north wall and opening into the interior of the chapel by an aperture near to the pulpit, access being had from without by a flight of steps in the chapel yard. It was erected in 1676 by Robert Hyde Esq., for reasons which are stated in the following letter to Mr. Holland:

Honoured Sir,

My due respects premised: —I understood by a neighbour, Daniel Hobson of Haughton by name, upon Monday last, that you are much displeased and offended with me for building a little place joined to the outside of the chapel upon the north side, only four foot square, and fixed to that side where I have two forms within the chapel. The occasion of this building was only the decay of my hearing, especially on the left ear, being aged seventy-two years and somewhat past, for that I could not either hear the chapters nor psalms when read, nor hear the prayer nor beginning of the sermon, the minister's voice being much decayed by reason of his age,— and merely for my better hearing and edification I made this building, whereby never a seat in the chapel hath any injury nor any person hath any prejudice in the least; —and had I thought that either you or any person would have been offended I would not have done it, — and were it to do again I would not do it. I confess I was to blame that I did not acquaint you with it before I did it; but I dare appeal to your own judgment, if at any time you please to come over upon your own occasions and to view it, whether I have done any injury to any person whoever. Moreover, I being the same day at the funeral of John Cheetam, your under-tenant to young John Taylor, he told me your man John Ward had told him that you were much displeased at the assessment agreed by the neighbours of both towns

[1] Ducatus Lancastriæ.

[Denton and Haughton] for the repair of the chapel bell, and that you would withdraw your kindness from Mr. Angier if that monies were not repaid, or words to that purpose. The truth is, I desired the chapelwarden to come to you and to acquaint you with the necessity of that repair before any work was done about it, which it seems he did not, and for which he is much to be blamed. But give me leave to tell you that it was a work so necessary to be done (and the charge was but a fourth part of a quarter's wages throughout the chapelry) that if it had not been done speedily the bell had been in danger to have fallen down and been spoiled, and the bell-house by end of the chapel; for almost all the iron bands that turn over and the iron bands that fasten the bell to the stock were rust and broken from it, and the wheel was rotten; and if we had been forced to have cast the bell new and to have repaired the bell-house and the chapel end, it would have cost the chapelry above twenty marks. And I believe rather than you should withdraw your kindness, some few persons in the chapelry would repay your part of the charges. And I do hereby promise that whilst I live in Denton there shall be nothing done in or about the chapel but with your privity and consent first obtained. I shall take it as a great favour if you write a line or two back by the bearer, sent purposely to know your pleasure, and I shall remain

Sir,

November 15, 1676. Your friend and humble servant,

Robt. Hyde.

Addressed — "This ffor his honoured ffrend William Holland of Heaton Esq. and Rector of Malpas." Endorsed — "Robert Hydes Esq. letter to Mr. William Holland about his encroachment in building a box of 4ft. square up to the side of Denton Chappel."

To this letter Mr. Holland replied as follows: —

. . . . . I make this return: — That I have no desire to quarrel with my neighbours appears by that tameness I have shewed in great incitements; but continued provocations baffle any patience, and an hard treading will cause the turning of a worm. Sir, it

hath been the wonder of others as well as myself that, having so considerable an interest in the chapelry, I have been laid aside in the consideration of transactings here. 'Tis true I live at a distance, and it may be the product of designing influence to cut me at all. To prevent this, as I know so I must notice my concerns more than I have done. As to particulars—'tis true I heard of the excrescence or wen you had added to the body of the chapel, but I reserved the declaring of my sentiments about it till I had taken an ocular view of it, and so did not (as some say) give out that it should be pulled down. Next, as to the late assessment, tax, or imposition, (I know not by what title to dignify it,) I had not so much respect given me (though both self and tenants' estates were concerned in that unparliamentary act) as to know upon what account we were thus taxed; nor was it intended I should have any notice of it or give any concurrence to it, since warning of the chapelry to meet was given on the Saturday and the meeting appointed on Monday May 29, which of necessity must exclude any notice or concurrence of mine. Nor since that time have I ever had the civility of an address. But at last by frequent demands my man was overcome to pay the tax; whereupon I told him his forwardness had . . . . . me and himself, for I would not pay it, — and that has made a significat of my mind to the chapel. But I disown any speech of mine tending to withdraw my kindness to Mr. Angier, as well knowing if Titus offend, Sempronius is not to suffer. This much resembles the story of Daniel Hobson touching my resentment of your additional building, — whereas my thoughts of it had not been clothed with language.

Writing also at the same time under strong feelings of resentment, to the collector of the rate in question, Mr. Holland says: —

R. H.,

I understand you have demanded and received from my man 2s. 7½d. as charged upon Denton demesne towards the repair of the chapel there. Who they are that have presumed to charge it, or what authority they have to enforce it, or for what repairs the tax is

laid, no address has been made to me to inform me or request my concurrence. I look upon it as an insolent invasion of my property and an ingrateful disregard to him whose family have been such eminent and unfollowed benefactors to the chapel, and therefore shall not be so easy as to suffer it. I require your repayment of the said 2s. 7½d., or else I shall look upon myself as concerned to oppose and deny all such arbitrary taxes on my estate. I look for your return of the tax.

Erected, as already stated, by the local families of Holland and Hyde, for the use of their tenants, the chapel was, within two or three years of its erection, endowed by the common consent of the freeholders, who undertook for themselves and their successors the annual payment of £20 in support of a minister. "It was agreed 26 Henry VIII. [1534] by the freeholders of Denton and Halghton that every acre should pay £20, and every acre in an intack to be enclosed to pay 20d., for the upholding of the chapel lately built on the same common. [Signed] Richard Holland, William Hulton, Adam Hulton, William Hulton son and heir apparent of the same, William Hyde, Nicholas Hulme, George Legh and Henry Ashton." This endowment, it was calculated by the freeholders, would produce an annual income of £20 to the officiating minister. It seems probable that Holland Watson, who quotes the above covenant from the Harl. MSS., has fallen into an error in transcribing it, and that 2^{ob} (i.e. 2½d.) and not 20^{l} (i.e. £20) is the correct reading, since all calculations based on the latter alleged contribution must show very different results from those contemplated by the promoters. Indeed this amended version is supported by documents in the present patron's possession, wherein it is stated that "the £20 to the minister is the rule and standard for assessing all leys for the repair of the chapel or whatever is wanting there according to each man's particular proportion of it, and it is found to be *a land-tax in Denton after the rate of twopence halfpenny an acre.*" This early provision for the maintenance of a resident curate, at first cheerfully and universally acquiesced in by the landowners and their tenants,

was further augmented by Richard Holland Esq. of Denton, grandson of the founder, who in his will, dated November 10, 1618, directed that out of the issues of certain lands after his death, the sum of £100 should be taken, received and employed by his executrix for and towards the purchasing of a yearly stipend of £20 per annum in perpetuity for the maintenance of a godly minister to preach the Word of God and read Divine Service at Denton chapel, to be nominated and chosen from time to time as the place shall be void, by his brother Edward Holland, his cousin Hamnet Hyde of Norbury Esq., and Robert Hyde of Denton gent., or by any two of them, or the heirs male of them or of any two of them which shall be really possessed of and in their lands, tenements and hereditaments in Denton and Houghton as lords and owners thereof, whereof his said brother and his heirs male after him to be one, hoping that upon this occasion not only they but divers other good Christians thereabouts will be moved bountifully to contribute towards the same. Of this his last will he makes his daughter Mary Eccleston widow his executrix. After his death his said daughter became the wife of Roger Downes Esq., who in April, 1621, paid over the £100 to Edward Holland brother and heir of the testator, to be disposed of according to the terms of the will. Edward Holland died leaving Ann his wife his executrix. She paid in February, 1635, the £100 to Richard Holland son and heir of the said Edward, who in 1645 disbursed £5 towards the minister's maintenance, and £3 towards the repairs of the chapel-house. Shortly after this a dispute arose (which led to a lawsuit) amongst the influential inhabitants of the township as to the legacy in question, touching the propriety of investing it in the hands of trustees as the most certain means of securing its application to the purpose for which it was bequeathed, and in August, 1653, Richard Holland Esq. was summoned, at the instance of Robert Hyde Esq. of Denton, before certain Commissioners for Pious Uses, who in the month of December pronounced the following decision : — "Upon hearing of the whole matter we do make and declare this end following — first, that the said Colonel Richard Holland, for and in consideration of the said legacy of

£100 which came into his hands in or about February in the year 1635, and all claims and demands whatsoever concerning the same from him, his heirs, executors and administrators, do pay the sum of £166 13s. 4d. in manner and form following; That is to say, that the said Colonel Holland do pay unto the said Robert Hyde of Denton the sum of £100 upon this instant sixth day of December, for which he is to give sufficient security to repay the same to the said Colonel Richard Holland and Edward Hyde of Hyde co. Cest. and their heirs with interest after the rate of £6 in the £100 for one year, the profit whereof is to be employed towards the maintenance of Mr. John Angier the present minister of Denton Chapel and to the ministers of the said place successively according to the said will of the abovesaid Richard Holland, and the sum of £50 at and upon the first day of May which shall be in the year of our Lord God 1655, which said sums shall be bestowed upon land, the yearly profits whereof shall be received and paid to and for the use and towards the maintenance of the said Mr. Angier and the ministers of Denton successively according to the aforesaid will: and in the meantime that the money be put forth and employed for the best advantage of the said Mr. Angier and successive ministers of Denton: and in case a fit purchase can be had before the aforesaid first day of May 1655, then the said Colonel Richard Holland shall pay the abovesaid £50 for and towards the said purchase upon three months' warning given to the said Colonel Richard Holland: and the remainder of the said sum of £166 13s. 4d., being £16 13s. 4d., to be paid unto the said Mr. John Angier at or before the 13 day of this instant December to his only use and behoof: and further, that notwithstanding the payment of the said sums of money as aforesaid, neither the said Colonel Holland nor Mr. Edward Holland his son shall diminish any payment or wages accustomarily paid to the said Mr. John Angier out of their lands in Denton in proportion with the rest of the inhabitants of the said town, nor withhold from the said Mr. Angier their proportionable parts of their chapel rents so long as the same is paid within the said town: lastly, that public notice be given for the meeting of the inhabitants of the said chapelry, when

so much of the said will of the abovenamed Richard Holland be read to them as concerns the gift of the said £100; and to the intent that the said will of Richard Holland may be better performed for the successive elections of the ministers of Denton chapel according to the said will, that then the said manner of election be confirmed by the assent and subscription of the said inhabitants; and that likewise in pursuance of the said will the abovenamed Colonel Richard Holland, Edward Hyde and Robert Hyde and their heirs, or any two of them whereof Colonel Holland and his heirs shall be one, do purchase the aforesaid land, when it shall be found out as aforesaid, in trust and for the use of the minister and ministers of Denton successively according to the said will. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, the sixth day of December in the year of our Lord God 1653.

In the presence of
Roger Harsneppe.
Tho: Ouldham.
Peter Jones."

[Signed] John Crewe.
W. Ashurst.

On this award being promulgated, Colonel Holland paid over the sum of £166 13s. 4d. as decreed, namely £100 to Robert Hyde Esq. of Denton, security for the same having first been given; £16 13s. 4d. to the minister of Denton; the remaining £50 being already put out upon bonds limited to the uses in the will expressed. Notwithstanding this, Mr. Robert Hyde, still unsatisfied, proceeded to file a bill in chancery against Colonel Holland, to compel him to pay into the court the £50 with interest, which sum, as he alleged, yet remained under Colonel Holland's control, and to exclude him, by reason of his former breach of trust, from all future participation in the management of the legacy. The matter continued in dispute until the year 1657, when an order was issued by the Lords Commissioners for the Keeping of the Great Seal, bearing date February 3, 1657, empowering Gilbert Ireland of Bewsey Esq. and Thomas Brereton of Ashley Esq. to decide the question. In pursuance of this decree the aforesaid commissioners gave notice to the inhabitants of Denton gene-

rally, and Robert Hyde the plaintiff and Richard Holland the defendant in particular, to appear before them at the house of Mr. Alexander Green in Manchester, on Thursday the 15th day of April. At the time and place appointed Colonel Holland, Mr. Robert Hyde, Mr. Edward Hyde, the Rev. John Angier, and most of the inhabitants appeared, and a unanimous desire was expressed that the £150 should be paid into the hands of six of them who would give security for it; and they then requested Richard Holland, Edward Hyde and Robert Hyde Esquires to take the security in their own names, but Mr. Robert Hyde absolutely refused to intermeddle with the said trust or that any security should be taken in his name at all for the said moneys; whereupon the inhabitants subscribed their requests and their hands to the said Richard Holland and Edward Hyde Esquires, moving them that the security for the said £150 might be taken in their two names till land could be found out to lay the monies out upon for the use of the minister at Denton chapel, which was accepted of and done accordingly by joint consent. Pending a decision on this disputed subject, the amiable Mr. Angier addressed the following letter to Colonel Holland. Though brief, and in its expression commonplace, it is characteristic of the man, himself at peace with all the world, and one who laboured for the dissemination of peace amongst his people: —

Honoured Sir,

The incouragement you gave me in my desires of peace hastned my indeavours at home, where I found Mr. Hyde very desirous that unkindnesses might cease and former love be renewed, which I doubt not off — the thoughts whereof are so contentfull to me that I would at once, by the blessing of God, both procure and preserve peace. To this end I humbly desire that forasmuch as the payment of the other £50 is to be at Mayday next according to the agreem^t^ (which I doubt not you will punctually observe) you would be pleased that the £100 stay where it is till that time, and that both the £100 and the £50 be paid in to me at the same time, which you shall then dispose off as you see good; onely I desire this

favour, that, to prevent occasion of after differences to the ..... of the ministrie here in reference to that gift, you would intrust one of the gentlemen which made the agreem^{t} (Mr. Ashurst or Mr. Crue, which of them you please) with the keeping of the security for the £150 or for lands purchased therewith. S^{r}, if I have erred in any of my requests, I shall not allow myselfe therein when I know it; and if I presume too much upon your favour, I may truly say my zeal for peace, and trouble at this unhappy difference hath put me on. I crave yo^{r} pardon and commit my desires to your favourable interpretation, hoping you will stay the suit and put the bond into my hand, which shall be very thankfully acknowledged by

Yo^{r} willing servant in the Gospel of the Lord Jesus,

Denton, Jan. 12, 54. J. Angier.

Addressed — "For my honoured friend Colonel Holland these at Heaton be."

It does not appear, however, notwithstanding the commissioners' award, that any steps were taken to secure a permanent investment in land for the Holland legacy, since in 1697 we find Edward Hyde Esq. addressing a letter to Sir John Egerton, requesting it as a temporary loan:

Honoured Sir,

I presume the trouble of this by the bearer William Bromiley on account of the chapel money. I did desire my uncle Thomas to intimate to you that I had a desire to have it for a year and shall give security for it, and if any longer I shall secure it on land. There is in your hands a bond all the principles being now extinct, if you please to favour me by consent that I may have the money I desire you'll please to return that bond by me if I wait of you in that time; to that end I will upon your delivery of the bond up give you what security [is] requisite; the money I judge is due on the third of May. I beg your favourable answer herein, for I would not act without your notice though I am a trustee. I beg my duty to my lady with my wife's who last week brought me another mother's

mark. I wish you and all my pretty cousins long life and much happiness. And now I will not invade your privacy too much but only desire that that bond may be delivered up into my hands upon the receipt of the money; I shall deliver it up to the executors and give you in the meantime satisfaction. Your answer and your forgiveness of this will much oblige,

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate kinsman and servant,

Edward Hyde.

My cousin Hyde I hope will not say against me. I'll secure it at the sight of Mr. Wardle by your order, or yourself if you command me ever.

Addressed — "To Sr John Egerton Bart at Ryne Hill, these."

Sir John Egerton's reply:

Cousin Hyde,

It is desired that I would take the money into my own hands and pay the interest out of Denton rents, and secure the principal, which I believe I shall do, else you should have had it as you desire and propose; which (with mine and my wife's service to you and cousin Hyde, wishing you joy of the little one she lies in of) is all at present from

Your truly affectionate kinsman,

J. Egerton.

Your uncle Tom has been here; left us this morning subpœna'd to Chester assizes on account of Widow Brooks of Meyre.

It was not until after the year 1791 that a permanent investment for the money was secured. In that year the sum of £175 5s., being principal money belonging to Denton chapel, was paid into the hands of the Rev. William Parr Greswell, curate, and John Lees and Robert Cooke, chapelwardens, by Joseph Dale of Holly Wood in the Parish of Cheadle Esq. and John Dale of Heaton Norris Esq., grandsons of the late Rev. Joseph Dale, clerk, formerly curate of Denton — lent on bonds to their grandfather and father

successively, and now called in to meet a grant made by the commissioners of Queen Anne's Bounty.

The chapel-wage of £20 per annum due from the freeholders of Denton and Haughton in support of their minister, was liable to constant fluctuation, and its payment being voluntary (unless indeed usage could be said to have established it as a right), it was given or withheld according as the minister was acceptable or unacceptable to the several contributors. In 1645 the following landowners, representing probably the entire lands in the two townships, their aggregate contribution amounting to the £20 at which the entire lands were originally assessed, "covenant and promise" to pay to the Rev. John Angier, or to such collectors as shall be thereunto appointed, for his use, the sums appended to their respective names, "being the proportionable part of the old wages of £20 per annum anciently paid."

Robert Ashton	00 . 10 . 00	
Richard Holland.....	04 . 05 . 10	
Edward Hyde..... ..	08 . 15 . 00	
Robert Hyde	02 . 00 . 00	
Robert Johnson	00 . 15 . 00	(anciently paid by Sir Alexander Barlow's tenants.)
George Lees	02 . 09 . 03	(anciently paid by Mr. Hulton's tenants.)
Robert Hyde and Thomas Lees	01 . 04 . 00	(anciently paid by Mr. Haughton's tenants.)

And "we hereby desire Robert Johnson, Matthew Partington, Samuel Hyde and John Lowe of Denton to collect and gather quarterly from the 11 of November last past, all such wages as is undertaken to be paid unto Mr. Angier, and to make payment thereof unto Mr. Angier as they receive the same. And we do also desire you to take care at fit seasons to call upon the neighbourhood to lead such fuel to Mr. Angier's house as he shall have occasion to need, and to see to the repair of his house, and to make known his wants and necessities, and that you take special care to provide for Mr. Angier hay, fodder and bedding for his horse as he shall have

occasion to use it, at as reasonable rates as can be gotten, Mr. Angier paying for the same."

The next source of endowment was the chapel-house or parsonage, situated in the north-east corner of the chapel yard, erected at the cost of Edward Holland Esq. (brother and heir of Richard Holland Esq. already alluded to as having provided the early endowment of £100) who expended thereon about £60. Before this time there had been no residence provided for the minister, who was entertained in succession by such of the inhabitants of the township as might be able to afford him the requisite accommodation. Being within the chapel yard, it was therefore on consecrated ground, if indeed it be admitted that either the chapel or grave yard ever received consecration, which is somewhat doubtful. Here Mr. Angier resided during the long period of his ministry at Denton; but shortly after his death it ceased to be occupied by the clergy, Mr. Dale having, it is believed, finally abandoned it sometime before 1687. Its later tenants claim a passing notice as indicating the perversion of use to which places and things are sometimes subjected. In 1746 (and it is not known for how long a period before) it was occupied as a publichouse by Jonathan Wharmby, who quitted it in that year, and was succeeded in the house and business by John Gaskell; his successor was Robert Cooke, also a publican, the father of William Cooke who in 1826 still carried on the business there. It was afterwards divided into cottages, and was finally removed in 1853, when the site was added to the chapel-yard. Tradition pointed to an apartment in the upper story, looking towards the chapel, as the study of the venerable Mr. Angier. Little did that pious pastor foresee the later uses to which his peaceful dwelling was to be converted, when, two days before his death, as recorded by his son-in-law and biographer, "he begged that the Lord would put down ill houses of iniquity, meaning alehouses!"

During Mr. Angier's ministry (1631—1677) the value of the chapel, as stated by his biographer, was under £20 per annum. In 1650, when certain state commissioners reported on it, it consisted but of Mr. Holland's bequest and of a parsonage house valued at six-

teen shillings a year, in all a clear income of £5 16s. besides voluntary contributions; and even so recently as 1704 it scarcely exceeded the abovenamed sum including voluntary contributions, which were estimated at £10 per annum. Its fixed and settled endowment was then as follows: — house and garden, £2; interest of £160, £8; surplice fees, £2.

In 1791 a return of its value was made by order of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty: —

Certain value — 1. £12, being the interest of £600 belonging to the said chapel, and as yet remaining in the hands of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. 2. A very ancient parsonage house and out-houses and a small garden, in exceedingly bad repair and long disused.

Uncertain value — 1. About £23 per annum arising from the seats when all let and occupied. 2. About £3 per annum from surplice fees. 3. £6 2s. 6d. the present yearly interest of £175, which sum the family now enjoying the right of patronage generously advanced; but it is thought that the patron has a discretionary power of withdrawing the principal, as it appears never to have been legally and irrevocably settled upon the chapel. Estimated total value in 1791, £60 18s. 6d.

In this year renewed efforts were made to provide a suitable residence for the ministers in perpetuity, in order thus to augment the very scanty income arising from the preferment. To this end the patron, the first Earl of Wilton, set apart the sum of £500, his own contribution and that of several members of his family. The project was however shortly afterwards abandoned, his lordship having heard from one of the older residents in the township that disputes had formerly existed as to the right of patronage, which disputes might at any time be revived, and that the parsonage so contemplated might possibly pass, together with the chapel itself, into the hands of the Warden and Fellows of Manchester. The house, already erected at some distance from the chapel, was given to the incumbent (Mr. Greswell) rent-free for his life, but was afterwards to revert to the

patron's family. On the death of Mr. Greswell in 1854, his son the Rev. Richard Greswell, thinking it a favourable opportunity for furthering his benevolent designs towards Denton, reminded the present Earl of Wilton of the intention of his lordship's grandfather with reference to the erection of a parsonage house, and the result was a donation on the part of his lordship of £500 towards the object. This together with grants of £200 from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty and of £50 from the Manchester Diocesan Church Building Society, and the offer of a site by David Shaw Clayton of Norbury Esq., encouraged Mr. Greswell to commence the work which he has now just completed at a cost of about £1,000.

In 1770, 1781, 1792, and 1794, grants were made by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty in further augmentation of the endowment, in each case to the amount of £200. The grant of 1781 was to meet a benefaction of similar amount from Sir Thomas Egerton. In 1793 Lord Grey de Wilton gave £200 with a like object.

In 1795 the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty proceeded to the purchase of an estate as a permanent investment of the fund to which they had so largely contributed, and which now amounted to £1,200. They selected lands in Haughton known by the name of the Haughton-moor-side estate, in extent ten acres Lancashire measure, for which they paid £850, a balance of £350 still remaining in their hands. In 1800 they purchased a second estate, also situated in Haughton, and known as the Jack Heys estate, about six acres in extent. The purchase money consisted of the balance (£350) then in their hands, to which was added a donation of £25 from Lord Grey de Wilton and a contribution of £25 from the inhabitants.

In 1813 a parliamentary grant of £400 was made to Denton chapel, which was applied in 1829 to the purchase of £452 12s. 4d. 3 per cent reduced Bank Annuities, producing £13 11s. 6d. per annum.

In 1834 the annual value of the chapel was returned at £135, which in 1850 appears fallen to £123, the income being derived from the following sources :

	£	s.	d.
1. Rent of the Moor-side estate	40	0	0
2. Rent of the Jack Heys estate	20	0	0
3. Interest of money in the Funds ...	13	3	8
4. Pew Rents	35	0	0
5. Surplice fees (average).....	15	0	0
Total.....	£123	3	8

The payment of the chapel wage was made by the freeholders and others with more or less regularity until the close of the last century, when it was merged into a subscription commenced for the purpose of obtaining a grant from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, an annual tax being thus as it were commuted into one single payment. The rate for repair of the chapel continued to be collected until a much more recent period. In later years it was confined to such as possessed pews in the chapel, either anciently annexed to their estates or recently purchased from old claimants, each being obliged to pay in proportion to the number of seats he possessed. The rate being resisted, was at length in 1836 finally abandoned, and the cost of all future repairs will be defrayed by voluntary subscription.

For purposes ecclesiastical Denton was, as already stated, from time immemorial, tributary to the mother church of Manchester. In 1701 the tithes of the two townships Denton and Haughton (no separate return was made) were leased by the Warden and Fellows for the sum of £30 per annum, and again in 1746 for £40, the lessee in the latter case being Sir Thomas Grey Egerton Bart. In 1848 the rent-charge in lieu of tithe from Denton alone was returned at £140.

By the will of Richard Holland, Esq., grandson of the founder, and himself the donor of £100 towards the chapel's permanent endowment, the patronage was vested in his brother Edward Holland, his cousin Hamnet Hyde of Norbury, and Robert Hyde of Denton, and their heirs or any two of them who shall be owners of their lands, whereof his said brother and his heirs male to be one. Mr. Holland's

will is dated November 10, 1618. At this period nearly a century had elapsed since the chapel had been built, and consequently some earlier scheme for regulating the patronage had doubtless been devised the particulars of which have not reached us. It seems however all but certain that the right of presentation was limited from the date of the erection of the chapel to its first promoters, the families of Holland, Hyde, and perhaps Hulton. In 1632, when Mr. Angier was chosen minister, no mention was made of any participation claimed by the Warden and Fellows of Manchester in the appointment, nor is there evidence of any earlier claim being advanced by them or others. They appear first to have attempted to establish a right after Mr. Angier's death in 1677, on the pretext that they possessed an ancient grant of all the chapels within the parish of Manchester; but, throughout, it was the policy of the two contending parties to abstain, whenever a vacancy occurred, from all hasty proceedings, and deferring each to the opinion of the other, to unite in the appointment, the nomination appearing sometimes in the name of the families of Holland and Hyde and at other times in the name of the Warden and Fellows. One circumstance tending to check any undue assumption of exclusive patronage on the part of the latter claimants was that the parsonage house, which anciently formed no inconsiderable portion of the chapel's endowment, had been erected at the cost of Edward Holland Esq., grandson of the founder, whose heirs reserved to themselves the sole right of granting or withholding it according as the newly appointed minister met their approbation. Difference of opinion led to occasional feuds between the parties, but all such disputes appear to have been settled by timely concession and compromise, rendering ulterior proceedings unnecessary, so that a judicial opinion on the relative claims of the disputants was never pronounced. This forbearance may be ascribed as much perhaps to the small value of the preferment as to any other cause, the patronage being rendered yet more worthless as carrying with it the responsibility of providing for the stated services, a task at times rendered difficult by reason of the scanty funds provided for the maintenance of the minister.

On the death of Mr. Angier in 1677 the following letter was addressed by Mrs. Ann Hyde of Norbury to Mr. Holland, respecting a claim then first preferred by the Warden and Fellows to the parsonage house, wherein the Nonconformist Mr. Samuel Angier had still continued to reside since his uncle's decease. The letter is endorsed, "Cosin Hydes L^{r} concerning Warden and ffellows demand about y^{e} House by Denton Chapple." Mrs. Hyde was the widow of Edward Hyde of Norbury and Hyde, Esq., and daughter of Sir Richard Brook of Norton Bart. Her resistance to the Warden's claim seems to have arisen from a desire of securing a continuance of Mr. Samuel Angier's ministrations at Denton, and that, holding Nonconformist views, she witnessed with regret the efforts which had been made to dislodge him.

Hon^{d} S^{r}

It's rather my misfortun then choyce to become better knowne unto you by my present actings in discord then an active presence in freindship considering y^{e} great league and amety of our famelies in both your brothers days. Let y^{r} goodnes pass by the defect of ceremonies in old weomen and freely discours your best advice and resolves in this perticaler wherin I only am ingag'd tho' you and others are as much concearn'd, to know what it is that can give y^{e} Warden or ffellows at Manchester a just right or title to the house Mr. Angier lived in, that they should, by S^{r} John Ardern, or rather S^{r} John by there athoarety, require the present incumbent to deliver his possession and hold it henceforward by vertue of there graunt; which if they can make good, how vaine was your brother Collonel Hollands and my father Hydes suite and dispute about it when the Warden that then was might have come in as a third person and devest both. I can't think S^{r} but you may have sum writings to shew the ground of that contest, and how desided. I find little heare but y^{e} coppy of y^{r} uncle or grandfathers wil, and my cos Crew's award (after the suit with my cos Hyde) how the monies should be payd. I thought I had a decree by me that did exclude my cos Hyde from being at al concern'd in it, but that y^{e} dispose of

that mony should rest in the heirs of Collonel Holland and my husband, and al the inhabitents of Denton and Houghton to have a free power in the election of there pastor; but contrary-wise my cos Hyde's consulted, and I not only slighted but profesd against as haveing nothing to doe theire; — and indeed if it be by y^r^ consent and lisence that you owne the Collegates to be cheef proprietors of the house, I will have nothing to doe there, for I suppose you'le nether wrong the Church nor yourselfe and heirs, it being not built for the preachers use alone but the peoples eaze also who found an inconveniance by there necessety of entertaining them. For my part I wonder how it came in question considering nobody threatned to withhold it but only for spite, which I have to greate a veneration for the Warden to judge him guilty of; nor will I ever be perswaded that in any kings raigne the Bishop was fetcht to consecrate a but yard; tho' it may be sume persons can eazely beleive it who holds shooting the upshot of the afternoons service in those times. I feare S^r^ I have given you to great a trouble in this tedious scroll; I will seace to tyer your patience and my owne pen further then to subscribe my selfe

S^r^

Hyde, Your servant,

Jan, 1, 1677–8. An Hyde.

Addressed — "For her hon^rd^ Cosin William Holland Esq. att his Heaton, These are."

In the year 1691 the Rev. Roger Dale addressed the patrons and alleged patrons of the chapel on his resignation of the preferment, deprecating any renewal of the contest between the local families of Holland and Hyde, and the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, as to the right of patronage, urging them to unite in appointing a successor who should abandon all Nonconformist usages and uphold the discipline of the Church.

"At my coming to Denton," he writes, "a suit was likely to have been commenced about the supreme right of it, between Mr. Holland and the Warden and Fellows of Manchester. At which

time Sir John Arderne, then living, and highly esteeming and honouring both parties, as well as having a great respect for myself, did make at that time this request with great earnestness — That they would at his special request forbear to engage themselves in a suit at that time, and let Mr. Holland have a formal giving me possession — which he did by his servant Mr. Wardle, before Sir John, old Mr. Hyde grandfather to my Lady Ashton, and Mr. Beresford Sir John's son-in-law, and others — and if they were resolved to try that point of patronage, to do it upon the coming in of another hereafter. The late Bishop (Stratford) then Warden, and the Fellows declared that they had an ancient grant of that and all the chapels in the parish, so that none could be put in there without their knowledge and consent, whose consent I had, and upon their certificate was admitted and licensed. Mr. Holland declared that his predecessors built and endowed the chapel, which was generally acknowledged by all thereabout; and what interest I received, or use of money, while I lived there, was the interest of such money as was given by his ancestors. The other neighbouring gentlemen who had (or at least claimed) seats in the chapel should have joined with Mr. Holland's ancestors in purchasing £20 in land per annum, but they failed and did not, but offered to pay such proportionable parts as should raise £20 yearly for a minister; but they failed in that also to me. I could not find it a parochial chapel by lawful authority consecrated, and qualified for burial, administration of sacraments, &c., but that such things had been done by usage and connivance since the late unfortunate wars in England. The first who was buried there was the first wife of old Mr Angier deceased, and the first that was baptized was a daughter of old Mr. Hyde's. Mr. Warden thinks it an inconsistency in my paper that I wrote in haste when it was so late and you stayed for it — that I had a formal possession given me by Mr. Wardle,[1] and yet was nominated by the Warden and Fellows, and admitted and licensed upon their certificate. But that enters not well into my apprehension; because though I left that at short, yet it is certainly true (as I remember) that Sir John

[1] Mr. Holland's agent.

Arderne prevailed, upon his earnest request, both with your reverend father deceased, and with our late Reverend Father in God deceased for himself and the Fellows, that not only all suits and differences about the patronage should for my time be forborne, and Mr. Holland should have at that time only a formal giving of possession to me by the keys of the house and chapel, which was done as expressed above; but also that for my time I might have the countenance and respect and assistance of both parties at such times as I might have occasion for them; and so I had, not in opposition to one another, but in a very comfortable union to promote my interest and authority in advancing conformity and regularity, and abating the heat and height of schisms and separations then too predominant. So that upon my request I had a certificate from Manchester, being then nearer to me, upon which I was licensed; and if I had gone to Mr. Holland I had no doubt received his certificate and licence upon it; or if I or Sir John Arderne for me had requested it from both parties united, for mine and the chapel's interest, I had undoubtedly received it. So that I may reasonably hope that real truth can be no inconsistency of moment. And, though utterly unworthy to be named with him, yet as sincerely wishing the Church's welfare, union and prosperity, and the comfort and happiness of all worthy and faithful friends to her — I do as humbly, unfeignedly, and earnestly beg both of your worship [Sir John Egerton] and of the reverend and worthily honoured Warden, as if I were before you both upon my knees, that you will be pleased to grant me the same request that Sir John Arderne obtained,—that you will forbear at this time to engage yourselves in suit about it, as well as all your predecessors on both sides have done, and that you will heartily unite and join together in encouraging some sober and orthodox minister to make use of his best endeavours to reduce the people of Denton to the ancient place of God's public worship. Division and separation I understand have sadly prevailed there of late years, and are likely to increase and improve rather than to decrease or abate, if such eminent friends of the Church as I very well know you to be do not unite to prevent the further growth thereof. I shall ever

acknowledge with all possible thankfulness the many and great favours and civilities that both myself and my family have received from you both, and do earnestly wish that it might lie in my way to oblige you or to show myself serviceable to you or to any friend of either of you. And that I may not too tediously trespass upon your precious minutes, do sincerely desire that you will now be pleased to add to them your grant of this my humble request and petition. If you please to read all I have written, I shall yet further add what I know upon anything you propose; and I hope to wait on you and your worshipful son at Heaton the next week or the beginning of the next following it."

The letter is addressed — "To the right worpfull S^{r} John Egerton Bart at Heaton these p̄sent."

The discussion of this much vexed question of patronage was again revived in 1705 during the incumbency of Mr. Pighells, who had received his nomination to the chapel from Sir John Egerton some years before. The causes which led to the interference of the Warden and Fellows are now unknown; but that the arguments adduced were insufficient to convince Sir John of the justice of the claim they urged, is evident from the indignant terms in which he couches his reply. The letter is addressed to Mr. Arderne: —

Mr. Ardron,

The Chappell at Denton being built by Richard Holland of Denton Esq. and endowed by Richard his grandson with the gift of an hundered pounds for and towards a maintainance of a minister there, to be nominated and chosen from tyme to tyme as the place shall be void by his brother Edward Holland, his cosen Hamnet Hyde of Northbury Esq. and Robert Hyde of Denton gent., or by any two of them or the heirs of them or any two of them that shall be really possessed of and in theire lands, tenem^{ts} and hereditam^{ts} in Denton and Haughton as lords and owners thereof, whereof his said brother and his heires after him to be one, as p̄ will itselfe will appeare; and the house for an habitac̄on for y^{e} minister being built by the said Edward brother to Richard that bequeathed the maintainence, I

conceive the Warden and Fellowes of Manchester have noe right or tytle to nominate or appoint a minister there, nor is the Chappell within the cognisance or jurisdiccon of the Bishop unless consecrated, as I believe it never was. I wold have you comunicate this to Mr. Warden, which sure will soe farr satisfie him as to prevent any differance by suit, &c.; for I will not loose my right descended to me from my late wiffes ancestors, nor doe I think my selfe obliedged to pay the maintainance left by her great uncle to any minister but such as are placed there by me in her right, pursuant to her said uncle's will. Soe that I expect Mr. Pighels (who I some yeares since placed there and is well licked by the Chappellrye) officiate there as formerly without any further molestaccon, for to him and noe other will I pay what is bequeathed — which, with my service to Mr. Warden, is all needfull as to this matter from

Rhynehill, Yor assured ffriend,
19 Oct. 1705. J. Egerton.

The right of patronage was finally settled in 1750 by a renunciation of claim on the part of the Warden and Fellows to nominate, and the withdrawal of all opposition to the induction of Mr. Williams. This concession was conveyed in a letter to Sir Thomas Egerton under the hand of the Warden, bearing date March 5, 1750–1, and is believed to have been the result of a compromise between the contending parties, whereby, in consequence of pledges voluntarily given by the Egerton family that they would endeavour to obtain an augmentation of the scanty endowment of the chapel from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty by a liberal contribution on their part, the exclusive and undisputed right to present was secured to that family for ever.

An earlier effort to increase the endowment fund had already been made in 1722, at which time Holland Egerton Esq. eldest son of Sir John Egerton, influenced by a similar desire to be confirmed in the exclusive patronage, contributed £60 towards a fund raised for the purpose of meeting a grant from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. From some cause or other the attempt proved

unsuccessful, nor did the chapel receive any benefit from that source until the year 1770.

The earliest minister of Denton chapel of whom any record now remains, was the Rev. Charles Broxholme. Mr. Broxholme was born in Lincolnshire about the year 1591, and was the brother of John Broxholme Esq. M.P. for the city of Lincoln in the Long Parliament. In 1627 he became the first minister of the chapel at Denby in the parish of Peniston in the county of York, officiating also at Gunthwaite under the patronage of Godfrey Bosville Esq. He was afterwards appointed to Denton, whence he was removed by suspension in 1631, the same year in which Mr. Paget was superseded in the chapel of Blackley, the causes which led to their suspension being identical. He subsequently became rector of the south mediety of the parish of Darley-dale in the county of Derby, and appears also to have exercised his ministry at Buxton, Belper and elsewhere in Derbyshire. He was interred at Darley-dale January 15, 1647, aged fifty-six years. Mr. Broxholme was the author of a work (published posthumously by his nephew Charles Jackson of Selston in the county of Nottingham) entitled "The Good Old Way; or Perkins Improved, in a plain Exposition and sound Application of those Depths of Divinity briefly comprised in his Six Principles. By that faithful Minister Charles Broxholme in Darbyshire." Small 8vo, 1654.[1]

On the banishment of Mr. Broxholme, the people of Denton seeking for a godly minister, several were proposed. The choice of Mr. Hyde of Norbury and Mr. Hyde of Denton had centered on Mr. Henry Roote minister of the adjacent chapel of Gorton,[2] but Mr.

[1] Bagshaw's *De Spiritualibus Pecci*, 8vo, 1702, a very curious tract of local biography.

[2] Mr. Roote was born in 1590, and was educated at Magd. Coll. Cambridge. After completing his studies he travelled much in foreign parts. In 1623 he was minister of Gorton chapel in Manchester parish, whence he removed to Halifax in Yorkshire, and finally settled at Sowerby in that parish as the successor of the Rev. Nathaniel Rathband. In 1649 he was consulted by Mr. Tillotson (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury), a native of Sowerby and then a student at Clare Hall, Cambridge, about taking the engagement. After the passing of the act of uniformity in 1662 Mr. Roote

Holland of Denton would not consent to his appointment. "He told them of a little man at Ringley, one Mr. Angier, and, saith he, I hear much good of him: if you will give him a call you shall have my heart and hand." The call was duly made; Mr. Angier came and preached at Denton, and being generally approved of, was appointed to the vacant chapel. He preached his first sermon at Denton on Easter Sunday 1632.

Mr. Angier was born at Dedham in Essex, and was baptized there October 8, 1605. He was the son of a clothier, and was the eldest of four brothers. At an early age he manifested a love of learning and a predilection for the sacred office which afterwards he assumed. His childhood was passed in his native village, and from the school of that place he was removed at a competent age to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he graduated in Arts. On leaving the University, his father being now dead, he lived for a time in the house of the Rev. John Rogers, minister of Dedham, a man of great piety and zeal, from whom he hoped to derive advantage in his preparation for holy orders. Afterwards with a like object he removed to Boston in Lincolnshire to the house of the Rev. John Cotton, where it appears he sometimes preached. Whilst residing at Boston he became acquainted with Miss Ellen Winstanley, a native of Wigan in Lancashire, a niece of Mrs. Cotton, and a mutual regard springing up between them which ripened into affection, they were married in the parish church of Boston April 16, 1628. Shortly after the birth of his first child John, who was baptized June 13, 1629, he began to entertain the idea of settling in America,[1] and, with this end in view, undertook a journey into Lan-

continued to preach in his chapel, setting at defiance all opposition. He was at length dragged out of his pulpit and sent to York Castle, where he suffered three months' imprisonment. He died October 20, 1669, aged about eighty years. He was the author of "A Just Apology for the Church of Duckenfield," a tract published in 1646, in the controversy that arose between the Independents and Presbyterians. His son Timothy, incumbent of Sowerby Bridge, was ejected from his living in 1662. He conformed in 1685, and held the living of Howden.

[1] About this time a number of the inhabitants of Dedham, conceiving the idea of settling in America, left their native land and founded the town of Dedham U. S.

cashire to take leave of his wife's relatives — a step leading to an entire change in his plans, for whilst there he received a call to the chapel of Ringley in the parish of Prestwich, which on mature deliberation he resolved to accept, commencing his ministrations in the month of September, 1630, having in the interim received episcopal ordination (without subscription) at the hands of Dr. Lewis Bayley, Bishop of Bangor, June 28, 1629. He preached his first sermon at Ringley from the 22nd verse of St. Paul's Epistle to Philemon, "But withal prepare me also a lodging, for I trust that through your prayer I shall be given unto you." Though thus to all appearance an episcopalian, Mr. Angier was a nonconformist as to ceremonies; and this being represented to Dr. Bridgman, Bishop of Chester, at that time residing at Great Lever, within two miles of Ringley, he sent for him and admonished him to conform. After several ineffectual exhortations and suspensions, which latter were shortened at the intercession of the Bishop's wife aided by a strong personal conviction which the Bishop himself entertained of Mr. Angier's worth, it was suggested that he should remove to a greater distance from his diocesan, who thus might be less aware of his unwillingness to conform. At the invitation therefore of Mr. Holland, and with the concurrence of Mr. Hyde of Norbury and Mr. Hyde of Denton, he commenced his ministry at Denton chapel, as already stated, in 1632. Here, though less exposed to the animadversions of his enemies, Mr. Angier was not entirely without interruption, and was more than once indebted to his patron Mr. Holland for his influence in removing from him the excommunication or suspension to which his nonconformity had rendered him liable. On the 14th of December, 1642, his wife died, shortly after giving birth to a daughter, leaving it as her dying request that, as soon as decency permitted the step and the lady's consent

Amongst these was Mr. Angier's brother Edmund, who appears however to have settled at Cambridge. The particulars of descent from Edmund Angier, as embodied in the subjoined pedigree of the family, are derived from a scarce volume entitled "A Genealogical Register of the First Settlers of New England, by John Farmer, Corresponding Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society."

could be obtained, he should take as her successor Miss Margaret Mosley, a daughter of Oswald Mosley of Ancoats Esq., to whom accordingly he was united November 15, 1643. The marriage sermons on the occasion were preached by Mr. Horrocks of Dean and Mr. Roote of Gorton, who both selected the same text, Gen. ii. 18, "I will make him an help meet for him," a prophecy which was amply fulfilled. She was an "excellent suitable wife to him, a tender mother to his three children, and an useful mother in Israel." She died without issue, and was buried in Denton chapel October 31, 1675. Mr. Angier continued to reside at Denton until his death, which occurred September 1, 1677, refusing all offers of more substantial preferment. "He lived," says his biographer, "a holy life, he died a happy death; he lived desired, and died lamented. He died in his own house belonging to Denton chapel, to which he had been a great benefactor. He died amongst his own people, over whom he had been pastor forty-five years, with whom he had been travelling, weeping, fasting, praying; amongst whom he has left remarkable seals of his ministry." Of this justly esteemed man much has been said in praise; but nothing can so strongly attest his worth as the general appreciation of his sterling qualities which was felt and acknowledged by men of all parties, and which secured to him, amid all the changes of that fickle period, the enjoyment and undisputed possession of his living without any violation of conscience or compromise of religious principle. He was interred September 5, 1677, within the chapel facing the pulpit, two knights, twelve ministers, many worthy gentlemen and multitudes of common people attending the funeral and making great lamentation.

In the civil dissensions which agitated the land during the greater part of his incumbency, Mr. Angier showed the same moderation which distinguished him in the discharge of his ministerial duties. Though he adhered to the side of the parliament, yet his affectionate prayers for the king, his temperate spirit, and his continuing faithful to his principles, procured him the good will of his greatest adversaries. He was strongly in favour of monarchical government, and bore his testimony against the mur-

Angier of Dedham and Denton.

John Angier of Dedham, co. Essex, clothier. = ... dau. of ..... died June 18, 1671.

- Margaret, dau. of Oswald Mosley of Ancoats, Esquire; mar. Nov. 15, 1643; died Oct. 28, 1675, s.p.
- John Angier, eldest son, Minister of Denton 1632-1677; bapt. at Dedham Oct. 8, 1605; died at Denton Sept. 1, 1677 (1st =) = ... dau. of ..... Winstanley of Wigan; mar. at Boston, co. Linc. April 16, 1628; died at Denton Dec. 14, 1642.
  - John Angier, bapt. at Boston June 13, 1629; Minister at Ringley Chapel in Prestwich Parish; mar. and had issue by his wife, who died April 1699, aged 68 years. =
  - Elizabeth Angier, born at Denton June 24, 1634; mar. April 25, 1655, to the Rev. Oliver Heywood; died May 26, 1661. =
    - John, born April 18, 1656.
    - Eliezer, born April 18, 1657.
    - Nathaniel, born Aug. 7, 1659, died in his infancy.
  - A daughter, born in 1642, living 1677.
- Ellen, dau. of ..... Winstanley of Wigan; mar. at Boston, co. Linc. April 16, 1628; died at Denton Dec. 14, 1642.
- Bezaleel Angier of Dedham, clothier; born 1612, died Oct. 30, 1678. = ... born 1618, died Nov. 21, 1681.
  - Samuel Angier, of Christ Church Oxford, born at Dedham Oct. 28, 1639; died Nov. 8, 1713, Minister of Dukinfield Chapel. = Ann, dau. of Oswald Mosley of Manchester, gent.; died July 24, 1690, bur. at Coll. Church, Manchester.
    - Bezaleel Angier, a Physician in London, where he died in 1717.
    - John Angier, a merchant in Bristol, where he died in 1760.
    - Ann Angier, mar. to the Rev. J. Cooper, Minister of Hyde, co. Cest. =
      - Ann Cooper, born Oct. 3, 1710, mar. in 1732 the Rev. William Harrison, Minister of Stand near Manchester, grandson of the Rev. Cuthbert Harrison, the ejected Minister of Singleton. =
        - Ralph Harrison, born Aug. 30, 1748, Minister of Hale, co. Cest., and afterwards of Cross Street Chapel, Manchester; died Nov. 24, 1810. =
          - William Harrison, present Minister of the Unitarian Chapel, Blackley, near Manchester.
          - Anne = Thomas Ainsworth, of Manchester, Solicitor.
            - William Harrison Ainsworth, late of Kensal Manor House, London, and now of Brighton.
            - Thomas Gilbert Ainsworth.
        - Nine other children.
    - Margaret Angier, mar. at Prestwich July 4, 1704, to the Rev. Ralph Lathrop of Overstrand, co. Norfolk, Minister of Wem and afterwards of Ledbury, co. Hereford.
- Samuel Angier, a merchant, settled in Holland, where he died March 1667.
- Anne, dau. of ..... Pratt, mar. June 12, 1657.
- Edmund Angier, a grocer, settled at Cambridge in America in 1636; freeman 1640. (2nd =) = ... dau. of ..... Angier, (1st =)
  - Edmund, born Sept. 20, 1659.
  - Hannah, born 1660.
  - Mary, born 1663.
  - John, born May 1664.
  - Nathaniel, born May 1665.
  - Elizabeth.
- Ruth, dau. of the Rev. Wm. Ames DD.; died July 3, 1656. =
  - Ruth Angier.
  - Ephraim Angier.
  - Samuel Angier, born at Cambridge March 17, 1655; graduated at Harvard Coll. Mass. in 1673; ordained at Rehoboth Oct. 15, 1679, from whence he was dismissed; afterwards Minister at Waltham May 25, 1697; died Jan. 24, 1719.
    - Ames Angier, born at Rehoboth June 29, 1681; graduated at Harvard Coll. in 1701.
    - John Angier, born in 1701, graduated at Harvard Coll. in 1720; Minister of East Bridgwater; died April 14, 1787, aged 86 years. =
      - Samuel Angier, graduated at Harvard Coll. in 1763.
      - Oakes Angier, graduated at Harvard Coll. in 1764.
  - ..... dau. of .....
  - John Angier, born June 21, 1656.

der of King Charles I. and the usurpation which succeeded it. He refused to enter into the Engagement, though to his great prejudice, having lost £200 by his refusal.[1]

No portrait of Mr. Angier is known to exist, and indeed it is thought that he never would consent to a portrait being taken, though repeatedly urged by the solicitations of his friend Mr. Crew, to whom his invariable reply was, "A minister's picture should be in the hearts and lives of his people." "Doubtless," adds his biographer, "it would have been a lovely figure, if to the life, for he was an exceedingly handsome personage; he was low in stature, and of a clear complexion, red and white; of a cheerful countenance and very graceful; of a venerable aspect and pleasant; but he judged the blessed fruits of a minister's labours were more eligible than the most lively representation of his vanishing exterior engraven in durable brass or marble."

Of his three children, John the eldest, born in 1629 at Boston in Lincolnshire, was educated for the ministry. He was admitted a pensioner at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, July 24, 1647. In his earlier years he became a source of much anxious solicitude to his father, by reason of the careless and profligate life he led. When in 1657 he presented himself for ordination, he was "approved for his parts and ability; but in regard that the offence given by his former course of life was objected, it was appointed by the Classis that Mr. Angier [his father,] Mr. Harrison, Mr. Newcome, Mr. Constantine, Mr. Leigh and Mr. Meek should speak unto him and move him to make an acknowledgement of his carriage before the congregation, thereby to evidence his sorrow and true repentance for the same; accordingly he was dealt with by the parties named and he promised to give satisfaction therein, and was therefore approved to be ordained."[2] His call was to Ringley in the parish of Prestwich, and his ordination took place in Prestwich church, August 13, 1657. He married, and appears

[1] Heywood's *Life of Angier*, edit. 1685.

[2] *Proceedings of the First Lancashire Presbyterian Classis*, a MS. in the Chetham Library, Manchester.

to have settled in Lincolnshire, where he was residing at the time of his father's death. The two remaining children of Mr. Angier were daughters, the elder of whom, Elizabeth, became in 1655 the wife of the Rev. Oliver Heywood, a celebrated Nonconformist minister and afterwards the biographer of his venerable father-in-law. She died at her father's house in 1661, and was interred by the side of her mother in the chapel yard of Denton. The younger daughter appears never to have married, and was residing with her father at the time of his death.

Mr. Angier was the author of "A Help to better Hearts for better Times," published in 1647.

During the long period of Mr. Angier's residence at Denton, he had several associates in the work of the ministry; indeed the advantage to be derived from intercourse with such a man could not fail to be prized by those who, being about to undertake the obligation of the priestly office, sought to profit by the advice and counsel of a man of more enlarged experience. It was Mr. Angier's opinion that a young man intended for the ministry should be placed for some time with some able minister, and preach under his eye and ear, and that it was hazardous for beginners to live in great men's houses. Of these was Mr. John Worthington B.A. of Katharine Hall, Cambridge, who from April 1646 to April 1647, as a probationer and unordained, assisted Mr. Angier in his duties at Denton. Mr. Worthington, on leaving Denton, received a call to Oldham, and having submitted to the Classis testimonials of a satisfactory character and taken the national covenant, he was forthwith ordained, the question proposed for his thesis being "An sola fides justificet?" Shortly afterwards we find Mr. Ralph Seddon resident in the township in the same capacity. Mr. Seddon was a native of Outwood in Prestwich parish, and received his education at Ringley school. In 1647 he was removed to Christ's College, Cambridge, where in due course he graduated in Arts. On leaving the University he took up his abode with Mr. Angier in order that he might have "the benefit of his grave example, pious instruction, and useful converse." In 1654 he was ordained

to the curacy of the adjacent chapel of Gorton, whence he removed to Langley in the county of Derby, at which place he was silenced in 1662. He was a zealous royalist, and suffered much for his attachment to the king. After the restoration he settled at Bolton, where he exercised his ministry. He died of the palsy at the house of his brother Captain Seddon (the very same house in which he was born) in March 1695, aged 77.[1] Another assistant minister in Mr. Angier's days was Mr. James Holm. He resided with Mr. Angier in the parsonage house until ejected from his curacy by the passing of the uniformity act in 1662. Calamy, in tracing Mr. Holm's subsequent history, speaks of him as often changing his habitation, but at last as receiving a call to Kendal in Westmoreland, where he died in 1688. He had a son whom he educated for the ministry, and who was for some time pastor of a congregation at Uxbridge; he died young. A fourth associate was Mr. John Jollie of Trinity College, Dublin, son of Major James Jollie, a member of the Manchester Presbyterian Classis, and Provost Marshal in the parliamentary army in the county of Lancaster. Mr. Jollie had two brothers also in the ministry (one of whom resided at Altham in Lancashire). He afterwards held the chapel of Norbury in Cheshire, and died June 16, 1682. Towards the close of his life, when the infirmities of age had rendered him less active, Mr. Angier secured the more permanent services of his nephew Samuel Angier, the son of his brother Bezaleel, of Dedham in Essex, where he was born August 28, 1639. He had received his earlier education at Westminster school under the celebrated Dr. Busby, whence he was removed December 8, 1659, to Christ Church, Oxford. In 1662 he was banished from the University on the passing of the act of uniformity, and, after residing for several years with Dr. Owen, finally settled in 1667 at Denton as assistant to his uncle in the work of the ministry. Though probably at an earlier period exercising the ministerial function, it was not until the year 1672 that he received ordination. This latter event took place at the house of Mr.

[1] Calamy's *Abridgment*, vol. ii. pp. 167, 168.

Robert Eaton, in Deansgate, Manchester, October 29, 1672, and is remarkable as having been "the first Presbyterian ordination among the Nonconformists in the North of England, and perhaps the first in any part of the kingdom." The sermon was preached by the Rev. Henry Newcome, who took for his text 1 Tim. iv. 12, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."[1] He remained at Denton until the death of his uncle in 1677.

It was almost the last expressed wish of Mr. Angier that this nephew might succeed him in the cure of Denton, a request little likely to be regarded when the decided Nonconformist principles cherished by the individual on whose behalf the request was made rendered compliance unlawful. Mr. Samuel Angier was not however without powerful interest at Denton. A great majority of the inhabitants in that hamlet had been nurtured in the principles of Nonconformity during the lengthened ministry of Mr. Angier's uncle; and if any further incentive were needed to urge them to support his claim, it was to be found in the dying wish of their late venerated pastor. Accordingly in October, 1677, a petition in his behalf was addressed by the inhabitants of Denton, Haughton and Hyde to "the Worshipful William Holland of Heaton Esq., Mrs. Ann Hyde the relict of Edward Hyde late of Northbury Esq. deceased, and Robert Hyde Esq. of Denton," praying "That whereas Mr. Samuel Angier hath for many years approved himself very faithful, painful, careful and laborious in the work of his ministry among your petitioners, and also that it was the earnest desire of his uncle our late faithful pastor (now at rest with God) that he might succeed him, which is no small encouragement to your petitioners; it is our earnest desire and humble request (if it may be thought fit) that he may still continue among us, and that he may be of public and private use still to instruct us and our posterity, and that none may be imposed upon us without the general consent of the freeholders and other inhabitants. Where-

[1] Hunter's *Life of Oliver Heywood*, pp. 244, 245.

fore we humbly beg your worships would be pleased to add to the many kindnesses we have enjoyed by your worships' and your ancestors' favours to do us what kindness you can in the time of our great need; and your petitioners shall ever pray for your worships' health and happiness."

To this Mr. Holland replied as follows, in a letter addressed to Mr. Hyde and Mrs. Ann Hyde his associates in the patronage, under the date October 22, 1677: —

Honrd Friends,

Some few days since I received this address, and though I presume that possibly as neighbours it hath been communicated to you both, yet I thought it becoming for me to offer it to your perusal. For my own part, since the Warden and Fellows of Manchester have took cognizance of the chapel of Denton as lying under their immediate cure, I am at a loss what more to say to it than that I am confidenced to believe that if a person qualified according unto law be by us nominated to them they would readily approve our choice, and if the person named in the petition were so qualified I should with my utmost endeavours and readiest desires promote that concern; otherwise I conceive it is not within the compass of our power to gratify the petitioners; this is the apprehension of

Your assured friend and humble servant,

William Holland.

On the 29th of October (within a week of the date of Mr. Holland's decision) the Warden and Fellows met in the chapter-house of the Collegiate Church to fill up the vacancy at Denton: present, Dr. Stratford, Warden; Mr. Adams and Mr. Wroe, Fellows. It was then ordered and enacted, That whereas the chapel of Denton in the parish of Manchester is destitute of a curate conformable to the Church of England, the said Warden and Fellows should nominate John Ogden, Bachelor of Arts, to be presented to the Lord Bishop of Chester for his license to officiate in that cure — and they

did then accordingly nominate him to the said cure by a writing under their hands, [signed] Nicholas Adams.

This then seemed finally to dispose of Mr. Samuel Angier's claim to succeed his uncle, and it is probable that from this date his ministrations in Denton chapel ceased. To the repeated demands, however, of Mr. Holland, that he would also give up the key of the parsonage house to his successor, he returned evasive answers, and it was not until after a delay of seven months from the day of Mr. Ogden's appointment that Mr. Angier evinced even a disposition to relinquish the post he so much coveted. On the 17th of May 1678 he addressed the following note to Mr. Holland: —

Worshipful Sir,

Sorry I am that I may not obtain the favour of abiding in the house upon consideration of a rent, though so much to the advantage of Mr. Ogden; I shall therefore as soon as I can, considering all my circumstances, procure another house, and in the meantime, for so long as I stay, shall not fail to give such a rent as the house I live in deserves, to be disposed of by your pleasure; and at my remove shall give the key to whom your worship shall appoint. This, with my hearty acknowledgments of your great respects to me and the kindness of the house thus far, is all I can add, but that I am studious to preserve your favour, and careful to approve myself

Your worship's obliged and humble servant,

May 17, 1678. Samuel Angier.

Three more months were suffered to elapse ere further steps were taken. Still Mr. Angier continued to occupy the parsonage house to the exclusion of the rightful owner, resisting every attempt to dislodge him. On the 19th of August 1678 the Warden and Fellows again met in chapter: present, Dr. Stratford, Warden; Mr. Adams and Mr. Wroe, Fellows. It was then unanimously concluded and enacted That Nehemiah Grimshaw, bailiff to this College, should on the day of the date hereof, in their names, require and receive possession of a certain messuage appertaining to the chapelry of Denton in the

parish of Manchester, from Samuel Angier, now tenant at will in the said house, gentleman, for the use of John Ogden clerk, duly nominated by the said Warden and Fellows, and licensed by John, Lord Bishop of Chester, as curate of the said chapelry; and for so doing they the said Warden and Fellows did then also, under their common and chapter seal, authorise and commission him the said Nehemiah Grimshaw in these words following, viz.: We Nicholas Stratford D.D. Warden, and the Fellows of the College of Christ in Manchester founded by King Charles, do hereby depute and authorise our bailiff Nehemiah Grimshaw, for us and in our names, to demand of and from Mr. Samuel Angier of Denton in the parish of Manchester a messuage or house situated in Denton, belonging to us, to enter and receive possession thereof, and the same to retain and keep for our use. Given under our chapter seal the 15 day of August anno Regni Car. 2ndi Angl., &c., tricessimo, annoq. Domini 1678. [Signed]

Nicholas Adams,

Witness hereof, Nathan Locke. Registrar.

This proceeding brought matters to an issue. Mr. Angier retired from the contest venting his indignation on all who had opposed him. In reply to one of his angry communications addressed to the Warden and Fellows, Mr. Holland, who had been permitted to peruse it, takes the heads and comments thereupon in strains the reverse of soothing to the perturbed feelings of the writer: —

Mr. Angier,

Your last seemed to consult me as an adviser what you were to answer to the Warden and Fellows of Manchester their demand for your removal. In my return to yours I signified that as I ever had an averseness they should put in any there without my concurrence, so I ever declared an unwillingness that any should possess that house without their approbation. This was my answer; but you had returned your own before your address to me, which I wish had been more prudent and less passionate; for as I have been

credibly informed, their letter of demand was received with so much heat and slighting, with such transports of anger and ranting, that by your furious walk and often agitation of your gown, your room seemed to be as dreadful as Dr. Busby's *nigrum domicilium* (to use your own expression); and indeed that the waves were very high appears by their foam and the expressions you then uttered. Give me leave to offer them for your second thoughts:

1. You said Mr. Warden and Fellows had no right to the house, nor ought to do there.

'Tis more than I would say, who yet have a greater interest to it than you can have.

2. That you had delivered possession of it to Mr. Holland and the charterers, and would seek to justify your abode there till May-day, and if it must be delivered up then, you would do it to Mr. Holland and the charterers.

My man had possession then in my name only, and now to mention the charterers is to cast a bone of dispute amongst us, and to raise a dust to obscure yourself in it.

3. That if the Warden and Fellows did molest and trouble your possession, Mr. Holland and the charterers must try title with them.

I know no law nor promise can bind me to it, since I always declared against any possession without their allowance.

4. That the more they troubled you, the better would the people love you.

Your own reading and observation may tell you that a factious opposition is an unsound bottom for popular affection.

5. That it was not the house you so much regarded, as to be amongst your people.

How that properly should arise is as unknown to me as the head of Nilus.

6. That you would continue your conventiculing (malgré all they could do); that as Nonconformity had been there so many years, so it would continue.

A bold hectoring against the established government, and a presumptuous assuming of the gift of prophecy.

Thus I have given you private animadversions on the premises, which possibly may come to a more public scanning.

On finding his plans for remaining at Denton thus frustrated, Mr. Angier retired to the adjacent village of Dukinfield, whence he might survey the scene of his former triumphs and indulge himself in occasional skirmishes with those whom the strong arm of the law had appointed to fill his place. Owing to the rigorous enactments which followed close upon the Restoration continuing with little relaxation throughout the reign of Charles II. and James II., opposition to constituted authority was rendered vain, the liberty of speech being denied to all Nonconformist ministers, who were even debarred from assembling a congregation for religious worship; but no sooner was the act of toleration passed (in 1689) than an outhouse in Dukinfield on an estate called Angier's Tenement (the residence of Mr. Samuel Angier) was converted into a meeting-house and licensed under the toleration act. Mr. Angier became the minister, and the Dukinfield family were members of his congregation. This was before the erection of a chapel, which did not take place until 1708. He died November 8, 1713, aged seventy-five, having been afflicted in his later years with an almost total deprivation of sight, and was buried in the chapel yard, where he is commemorated by a Latin inscription on his tomb.[1] His funeral sermon was

[1] Hic requiescit in Domino
SAMUEL ANGIER
Jesu Christi Minister
Vir primævæ Pietatis et omni Virtute præclarus
Dedhamiæ in Comitatu Essexiæ
Piis et honestis Parentibus
Natus Octobris 28 1639
Westmonasteriensis Scholæ deinde Ædis Christi Oxon
Alumnus Regius
Concionator Egregius et Assiduus

preached by Mr. Aldred on 2 Cor. 1st chapter and 12th verse. He married Ann, the daughter of Oswald Mosley of Manchester gent., by his wife Ann, daughter of Mr. William Lever of Kersall. She died in 1690, and was interred in the grave-yard of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, where the stone is still to be seen bearing the following inscription: "Anne daughter of Oswald Mosley gent. and wife of Samuel Angier minister of the Gospel was here interred July 26 1690."

The preaching of Mr. Samuel Angier, says Calamy, "exposed him to many troubles and difficulties; warrants were out against him, and in 1680 he was excommunicated at Stockport Church. He was an excellent scholar, and retained much of his school learning. He was a very judicious and lively preacher and a zealous asserter of the doctrine of free grace. He was an eminent Christian and zealous of good works, much in prayer, and very particular in praying for his friends and neighbours especially in affliction. When his sight failed him he frequently entertained himself with repeating the greater part of David's Psalms and Paul's Epistles. He was all his days a close student, a great valuer of Bible knowledge, an exact preacher, and one who lived as he spoke and spoke as he lived. He was fully satisfied with his nonconformity to the last. Being requested to draw up an account of his ejectment and sufferings, his answer was, The ill treatment he had then met with would blacken the characters of some who were now dead and gone, and be very

Continuis Evangelii Laboribus et Morbis
Fere obrutus
Lumine etiam, ingravescente Ætate, orbatus
Tandem animam placide
Deo reddidit
8vo Novembris Anno Salutis
MDCCXIII.
Ætatis LXXV.
In perpetuam Pietatis Memoriam
Bezaleel et Johannes Filii sui
H. M. P. C.

offensive to some still living, and therefore he was for dropping the account of it."[1]

On the death of Mr. Angier senior in 1677, as already stated, the Rev. John Ogden was nominated by the Warden and Fellows to the vacant chapel, to which he was duly licensed by the Bishop. From an unpublished memorandum of the celebrated Henry Newcome we learn that one Mr. Ogden had, a few years previously, twice officiated at the adjacent chapel of Gorton, being at the time on a visit in Manchester: "On the Lord's day January 2, 1669," (1670,) says Newcome, "Mr. Ogden, a stranger that has for some weeks been in Manchester in pretence to study at the Library, came with John Broxup to Gorton and said he was sent there by the Warden to preach." For one cause or other there was an unwillingness on the part of some of the inhabitants to receive him, and a distrust in the authenticity of his mission. Two or three of the congregation waited upon the Warden to ascertain whether he had sent Mr. Ogden. The Warden in reply said that he had not sent him, but had given his consent on learning that some of the people wished to have him. On the following Sunday Mr. Ogden's visit was repeated, being accompanied on this occasion by Anson an attorney and other persons from Manchester. Finding the pulpit already occupied by Mr. Jolly, who refused to give way, he retired to an alehouse hard by, where he stayed until the service was over. This occurrence was much discussed, and led to Mr. Jolly being summoned to London. Whatever was the result of the enquiry we hear of no more visits to Gorton. This was doubtless the same Mr. Ogden who in 1677 was appointed to succeed Mr. Angier at Denton, and it is probable that he was as yet (in 1670) unordained and

[1] Palmer's *Nonconformist's Memorial*, vol. i. pp. 172, 173.

An original portrait of the Rev. Samuel Angier is in the possession of his descendant Edward Harrison Esq. of Preston. It is a full size half-length in oil, and represents Mr. Angier as a mild, amiable-looking old man in clerical garb, with gown and bands, his white hair flowing from beneath a black Geneva skull-cap. The canvas bears the inscription "Ætat. 74."

desirous of the post of "lector" or schoolmaster at Gorton, with *quasi* clerical functions, a peculiarity of ministration to which most of the ancient chapels in the parish were at times reduced in consequence of the scanty provision afforded for a resident curate; the alternative being a lay reader, with or without prospect of ordination, and no minister at all. Mr. Ogden was of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, B.A. 1672, M.A. 1681. Pending his full recognition at Denton by the resident families, who by their willingness to contribute towards the minister's stipend, or the reverse, exerted considerable influence over the patron's selection, the following letter was addressed by Sir John Arderne[1] to Mr. Holland:

. . . . . Mr. Ogden hath preacht four days there, and is licenst by the Bishop, and encouraged by the Warden and Fellows to continue preacher there. Before I give any considerable encouragement to him (as a neighbour gentleman) I think it's fit to consult you in the case — whether you approve of the man, and whether you are desirous your tenants shall be moved to contribute their usual proportions to him as formerly to Mr. Angier: your concern and interest is the most considerable and most to be courted. If you'll give liberty, I'll send for your tenants in Denton to meet and see what they will subscribe, if that be your desire. I pray let me receive such a letter from you (by a messenger I'll send) to-morrow as I may show to your neighbours and tenants hereabouts, that you approve of Mr. Ogden and desire I'll communicate it to your tenants and move them to their usual subscriptions. But I could rather wish you would be there personally, and your own time shall be

[1] Sir John Arderne of Hawarden Knt. was born in 1630; he married in 1654 Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Legh of Lyme, rector of Walton and Sephton, and dying in 1701–2, was buried at Stockport. He was High Sheriff for the county of Chester in 1660. Harden or Hawarden Hall (the residence of the Arderne family to whom frequent reference is made in these pages) is a fine specimen of the domestic architecture of the sixteenth century, and is situated about a mile from Denton on high ground overlooking the river Tame (on the Cheshire bank of the river) which there forms the southern boundary of the township of Denton.

observed, but the sooner the better. I will give you no further trouble but to read me subscribed your sister's and

Your affect. kinsman and servant,

Harden, Nov. 23, 1677. J. Arderne.

Addressed — "These for William Holland Esq. at his Heaton."

Mr. Ogden's stay at Denton scarcely extended beyond a year, the discomfort he experienced on his early settlement and the hostility of the people towards him during his residence, having probably caused him to hasten his removal. In January 1678–9 Mr. Hyde addressed Mr. Holland on the arrival at Denton of Mr. Ogden's successor, the Rev. Roger Dale: —

Sir,

My due respects premised with thanks for your kind letter. You may remember I gave you a hint in my letter that we had hopes of a hopeful conformable minister who preached with us yesterday both parts of the day, and did preach very well; and the people, upon notice given unto the congregation that such a one was to preach as might be obtained for our minister if he gave satisfaction to yourself, Warden and Fellows, and others concerned therein, and all the congregation, came unanimously except two or three families. I did not see so full an assembly of our own people since old Mr. Angier died, and they seemed all to like him well. And as your assistance and furtherance hath been a chief support of the ministry amongst us, so your concurrence and assistance is still desired with all thankfulness for all the former kindness of yourself and the great kindness of your predecessors for the maintenance of the gospel amongst us. What I certified you touching the abuse of the chapel-house was all done since the bailiffs went away, for they removed nothing that was affixed to the freehold. I am sorry for the death of your servant, who was a careful servant and diligent in execution of his trust. I pray you pardon my boldness, and I remain

Your servant and friend,

January 6, 1678. Robt. Hyde.

Addressed — "This for his Reverend and Worshipful friend William Holland of Heaton Esq."

Mr. Holland at once seconded Mr. Hyde's wishes, and on the 5th of April 1679 gave possession of the chapel-house to Mr. Dale, receiving from him an assurance that the keys should be restored to himself his heirs or assigns whenever he (Mr. Dale) ceased from his ministrations at Denton.

The appointment thus conferred was ratified by the unanimous vote of the Warden and Fellows, September 15, 1679, and was undoubtedly one attended with great difficulties to the individual filling it; — a "conformable minister" located amidst a nonconformist population must needs act with judgment to escape the censures of those who differed from him in opinion; and moreover Mr. Dale appears to have carried out his views with great promptitude and decision, conceding nothing to the prejudices of his opponents, who would not fail to characterise his practice as marked by intolerance wherever it was at variance with their own lax notions of propriety. It is probable that at an early period of his sojourn at Denton he received many private remonstrances from the people, which being systematically disregarded, led in 1685 to a more public protest.

His patron Mr. Holland was now dead, and thinking it a good opportunity for addressing Sir John Egerton, then recently invested with the patronage by his marriage with Elizabeth, sister and sole heiress of Mr. Holland, the inhabitants prepared a petition against Mr. Dale and his practices. Their intention however having transpired, the following letter was addressed by the Rev. Francis Wood rector of Northenden, an influential friend of Mr. Dale, to the Rev. Richard Heyrick, Warden of Manchester, at that time on a visit to Sir John, apprising him of the intended address and seeking by a simple statement of Mr. Dale's merits to secure the kind offices of Mr. Heyrick, who thus might assist Sir John Egerton to a just conclusion: —

Mr. Heyrick,

I well understanding that some factious persons in Denton being exasperated against Mr. Dale (the curate of the place, a very honest gent. and a great preacher of loyalty and obedience) especially for bringing the surplice, Book of Homilies, &c.; insomuch that they are about to give some false information to Sir John Egerton against him, in hopes to obtain his assistance so far as to create some mischief against the honest though poor clergyman, for they sorely and earnestly long for a change there as well as among the greater spheres, though he be as civil person as any man can be: I therefore beg of you to prevent anything that they may insinuate into Sir John's ears to the gentleman's hindrance, and to make him rather his friend by letting him know what sort of creatures his enemies be; and by so doing you'll oblige several loyal persons, particularly the Rev. Dean of Chester, who is now present, as well as,

Sir,

Harden, Your assured friend and humble servant,
May 21, 1685. Franc: Wood.

The petition referred to is as follows:

To the Right Worshipful Sir John Egerton of Farthinghoe and Baronet, Edward Hyde of Hyde Esq., William Hulton of Hulton Esq., and to Robert Hyde of Denton Esq., and to every of them;

The humble petition of the chapelry of Denton and Haughton whose names are here subscribed sheweth: That the chapel of Denton is only a chapel of ease, and was erected by and at the charges of the inhabitants and Mr. Holland of Heaton principally, who left the sum of one hundred pounds by will to feoffees in trust to be employed to and for the good of the whole chapelry for the purchasing of a yearly rent of twenty pounds per annum in perpetuity for the maintenance of a preaching minister in that place to be nominated and chosen from time to time as the place shall be void by Edward

Holland Esq., Hamnet Hyde Esq., William Hulton Esq., Robert Hyde of Denton Esq., or by any two of them or the heirs male of them or any two of them which shall be really possessed of and in their lands, tenements and hereditaments in Denton and Haughton as lords and owners thereof, with assistance of the chapelry. But so it is that one Mr. Dale is put into the place without the consent and good liking of all or the greater part of the chapelry, and contrary to the will of the donor of the hundred pounds, and not elected by the persons nominated in the said will nor any of them, and contrary to the usual way of bringing in a minister for very near a hundred years past; nor is he contented to go away with the benefit of that moneys only without the consent of your worships and the rest of the persons concerned therein, but hath exposed a great many of us to much trouble and charge both in the temporal and spiritual courts, and pretends he has a grant thereof for his life, and that he will not cease troubling and perplexing of us till he has brought us to a subscription to pay him a certain stipend yearly, and to that end seeks all advantages against us, denies us the liberty we have always had of burying our dead, and threatened to prefer bills of indictment against such as come to bury there, neither can we enjoy our own habitations with comfort. The premises considered, may it please your good worships in whom the power rests to remove him and to elect one under whose ministry we might live peaceably and quietly to the advantage of our souls. We desire one that would satisfy the law, and we will be willing to pay him as we are able. And your petitioners will ever pray for your worships' health and happiness long to continue.

To this address were attached sixty-five signatures.

On receiving intelligence of the measures resorted to by his opponents to damage him in the opinion of his patron, Mr. Dale undertook to justify himself from their aspersions. During Mr. Holland's life he had enjoyed his confidence and support in all the schemes devised for the welfare of Denton and its inhabitants, being named also as executor under Mr. Holland's will; and he desired to cultivate the like friendly relations with his successor, the present patron,

as the best means of promoting the success of his ministerial labours. Writing to Sir John Egerton under the date April 30, 1687, he says:

"Understanding of late that some private (but envious) friends of mine have attempted behind my back to possess you with an ill opinion of me for removing about an hour's walk from the house at Denton wherein I now dwell, I make bold to entreat your serious consideration of my reasons for it, and accordingly to think of me. For, first of all, were I a single man I might easily help or suit myself, or were there any land appertaining to the chapel of which I were possessed and might rest assured; but having a wife and five children with a servant to myself to take care of, who have never yet (I bless the Lord for it) known what it was to want milk or butter or any conveniences coming by cows, or corn fit for them or their friends; and being told that Mr. Hyde of Denton would push and till a close for which I have paid him £6 per annum justly and truly for its nearness and convenience, though all the neighbourhood knows it hath been too dear by above twenty shillings; and having but one year in two other closes which I took for seven years, and receiving answer from their owner that if I had them any longer it must be at a dearer rate, though I also have justly and truly paid more for them yearly than ever they were set for before I took them, I could not but think there was a design towards me. And having no certainty of any other within any reasonable distance from the house, and knowing your worship had set Denton Hall for several years yet to come, I deemed it both prudence and high time to provide for my family as well as I could. And being requested by a person or two of worth, to whom I know your worship hath a reverend esteem, to take thoughts of doing some service in or near Stockport, which might be of considerable use there as well as helpful to me in the discouragements under which I labour, I made some promise if I could light of a place convenient for distance in respect of my preaching at the chapel. In the second place, the ditches and plattings or throughs which formerly were oft cleared and ditched, and so drew the water well away both from the house and the

chapel yard, are now wracked, filled or stopped up, and, as I have all reason possible to think, purposely kept so; for those to whom they belong, upon fair notice and earnest request, have and do neglect and refuse to clear them: so that after my glazing, pointing and guttering the house round, and making some chimneys new, which hath cost me very lately very dear, the kitchen wherein we always lived was and is after every storm of rainy weather so full of water that my family hath been constrained to lade and carry it out after a manner too shameful here to be set down; and by reason thereof, and of the coldness and dampness of the house, we were forced in a manner out of it; and some persons of quality that would have placed some of their sons under me for instruction in school-learning did also forbear for their health's sake. I can further prove that my predecessor Mr. Ogden, who was as civil a man as did need to live, was once clodded and stoned, and another time abusively and violently pushed off his horse; that stones have been thrown at me and light as near and dangerously to me as could be without doing their designed mischief; and that my wife hath in the chapel yard been hit over the side of her face and head when she never as much as thought the least harm to any one. About the time of the excluding bill, when the factious parliaments were at the height of their rage and impudence, and Mr. Angier preached as now he doth in his barn, this and the like, with most odious scandals, was the measure and comfort we could receive. And upon the coming forth of this toleration my wife is fearful there will be as little comfort again. I have endeavoured what I can to get a suitable tenant for it reserving a convenient room for myself, but the time is too far spent for this year I doubt. Nor is it much material, for that I shall weekly come to it and keep both fuel and lodging in it, to make use of both at the week's end and whenever I come to take care of the hay and cattle I shall this year have there, and to see yet further to its repair in some respects which I have begun, which it wanted before I ever saw it or knew it; and if I dislike at the year's end, or before, and can more conveniently fit myself in any respect, I am at liberty to leave what I have taken. Confidence is not wanting already openly

to express the design of getting a Noncon. in if devices (though never so unlawful or unjust) can get me out. But it will be prudence for them to take the holy apostle's advice, "Not to use their liberty as a cloak of maliciousness," lest it last not so long as they fancy it will. I should have thought much better of their profession if (setting aside these unchristian practices in the dark and behind my back) they had, as our blessed Saviour commands, told me their grievance or my oversight, if they thought so of me, first between me and them or any of them only; and then with one or two to judge of it; and then further as he directs, and had endeavoured to have restored me in the spirit of meekness. But the tree hath, and is, and ever will be known by its fruits. I most humbly thank your worship and your good lady for all favours and kind respects to me and my poor family; and unfeignedly and earnestly praying for the health, comfort and prosperity of yours, I remain

Sir

Your most dutiful, affectionate and obliged servant

Denton, and chaplain,

This last of April, '87. Roger Dale.

Addressed — "To the worthily hon^{d} S^{r} John Egerton Bart. att Heaton, These p^{d}sent."

Writing subsequently to Sir John Egerton with reference to the unwillingness of the inhabitants to make the customary contribution towards their minister's support, he says: — "It is certain that when they [the inhabitants of Haughton and Hyde] obtained liberty from the ancestors of Denton to have and appropriate to themselves the moiety or one half part of the chapel, they did then engage to pay the moiety of the £20 per annum to the preaching minister and to repair one half of the chapel, and to provide or pay for the moiety of whatever there might be occasion to have provided. And it cannot be proved whenever it was unpaid in either respect before Mr. Angier died. And since, payment hath been made as usually for the chapel's repair and provisions; and now there is few or none throughout Denton, save only Thomas Lees of

Bightbank and Bridgehouses, but they are brought in for payment as formerly. But for several years past I have not received above £1 5s. 0d. out of Haughton and Hyde in the room of £10 per annum, though they have come as readily and confidently to their seats at their own pleasure, and have buried and enjoyed all other ministerial privileges as any in Denton, that have and do pay their chapel-wages never so honestly and duly to me. And whereas it was suggested by Mr. Johnson of Salford and others at our meeting in Manchester heretofore, that if I would not insist upon calling it ancient wages, or due (as they were pleased to term it) by prescription, but take it as their free gratuity, they would make my salary double what it was; I do hereby assure you that there is not one of them that hath since then brought or sent one penny or pennyworth to me, though I then declared and still am willing to embrace it by what name or title soever they were pleased to give it. Nor do I believe such speeches will hereafter be verified either to me or to any that may succeed me, if the same course and order be not taken and procured which is in all the rest of the chapels in the same parish, namely, that they either pay as usually they have paid for their seats, or else that the seats may be disposed of to others that are willing to do so; which is all I desire or design save only the faithful discharge of my duty to such as will by no fair means nor in any reasonable time take care to perform theirs. And when they exclaim against me for a contentious or troublesome person, I would only beg they might produce one tenant of your worship's or any other person in the chapelry that hath paid me as others formerly, and decently repaired to the chapel with his family, with whom I have been contentious or troublesome since I came to Denton. But these are ever loading me with reproaches the better to palliate their injustice and disobedience both to me and the government established, and (if it be possible) to make me contemptible in the eyes and hearts of all that love and respect me."

In further justification of himself Mr. Dale adds: — "In answer to Mr. Johnson's accusation that I would neither bury his brother, nor suffer Mr. Hyde to officiate for me; First, I am obliged in

strictness to neither, for there is no license nor legal authority to bury at Denton, nor anything that can look like a warrantable custom or prescription for it. The first that is known to be buried there was Mr. Angier's first wife, for whom he took that liberty in the time of the late bloody usurper Oliver, when each one did what was good in his own eyes. After that he buried all that came, and it hath in pure kindness and charity been since winked at by the Bishop and the Warden and Fellows of Manchester. — Secondly, I can prove that some have had the impudence since Mr. Sam. Angier's suppressing to bring him in the absence of Mr. Ogden and me, both to preach funeral sermons in the chapel and to make long speeches at the grave of his own composure instead of the Church's prayers. — And John Johnson was a man that frequently had him at his house, encouraged him (as I am informed) to preach in a barn belonging to his wife, till he was informed against; after that went publickly and constantly to him each Lord's-day while the said Mr. Angier preached in his own house or barn in Dukinfield, which was too shameful a time to mention. And he being dead on Saturday night or extreme early on Sunday morning, and no notice being brought to me of his burial neither upon Sunday nor upon Monday, nor any passing peal rung in order to it, I had (I think) just cause to suspect that Mr. Angier must bury him, and for fear of it I sent for the keys to Harden. Thirdly, I had no fit or convenient notice given me so to do; for their messenger came to me when dinner at Harden was almost over, and he came with an information or command rather than a request. It was to let me know that John Johnson's friends intended that day, being Tuesday, to bury him, and to have Mr. Hyde to preach for him, and if I were willing of it they desired to know, for otherwise they would carry him to Manchester. To which I replied that I looked upon it as an unfit notice and request, both because John had so absented himself from me, and never paid me anything of that fifteen shillings per annum which his estate had usually paid to the chapel; but I took his brother for a conscionable and considerate person, and if he were pleased to refer the difference between his brother and me to any

civil person I would content myself with whatever was appointed me, and he was freely welcome to any liberty that could lawfully be allowed him. Upon which he went from me, and when he had been with Mr. Johnson, came again to require me very peremptorily and instantly to come bury the corpse or to send the keys. I told him that notice was not reasonable; and they were not so civil as to send me a horse, and I had none of my own there, and to plod through thick and thin between Harden and Denton as the way was then in January, I was not free, and for the keys, I had sent them home. I had twice before given Mr. Hyde free liberty to preach at Denton when I had convenient notice and was civilly requested; and I had, I can prove, made Mr. Lawton free to the chapel, Mr. Ellison and Mr. Kinsey, as if they had been at their own places; but as this matter was managed for John Johnson, and so intimate as he had always been with Mr. Angier, I think I had reason to do what I did. In answer to their objection of citing and troubling them without cause for what is not my due, I desire it may be considered that it was not only so paid to Mr. Angier, who was minister at Denton five or six and forty years, but declared in the subscription made to him to be an old wages of £20 per annum by the lords and their tenants anciently paid in particular proportions according to the seats and privileges which they held and enjoyed; and I designed nor desired no more but, without giving offence to my superiors in whose disaffection I cannot be free to live, that I might have order from the Bishop's court that all such of the vulgar as came and enjoyed their usual privileges of seats, burying &c. there, might pay me their usual proportions or else fairly give them up to be disposed of to others that might think them worth what they paid for them. And to this end I cited them to Chester; but being informed that the good family at Hyde and Mr. Hyde of Denton were disobliged by it, and had given their hands against me, I spoke to my proctor to forbear all proceedings till I had convinced them of the falsehood of what I heard had been suggested to them by my adversaries, that I intended to set up a prescription. And when books of articles are sent unto us both from the Archbishop's agents and the Bishop's,

strictly commanding presentment of all offenders and offences answerable to them (which articles I can produce), I hope it will be judged equitable either that what is truly done in obedience to them stand valid, or else that we be taken out of their books and not cited to visitations to do it. And in obedience only unto them I have with the chapel wardens, or for their default, as all other ministers that make conscience of their obligations, presented such as come not to receive the holy sacrament; such as neither brought their children to me nor to Manchester, but to Mr. Sam. Angier to be unlawfully baptised; nor their wives to be churched as it is required; such as have totally absented themselves from the chapel, or openly sworn in the chapel as black Thomas Lees; or committed fornication; or obstinately refused to send their children and servants to be catechised; or such as have buried at Denton and then had their funeral sermons preached by Mr. Sam. Angier the Nonconformist at Dukinfield; or such as have refused to pay their proportions of leys for repair and needful provisions for the chapel. And without some of these causes not one person hath been presented or cited by me."

In 1691, Mr. Dale, who had accepted the curacy of Northenden in Cheshire, thus announces to Sir John Egerton his resignation of Denton:

Honoured Sir,

My due and most humble and unfeigned thanks given to your worship and your ever honoured lady for that remarkable and unparalleled respect which you have been pleased to shew me in the worst of times under those sad discouragements I have undergone at Denton. Hereby I have thought fit to acquaint you that the Almighty in His good providence hath now ordered my removal thence; and as soon as my Lord Bishop comes to visit, before whom that reverend gentleman I serve must preach as Maxfield [Macclesfield], I shall after that his performance have the benefit of his good pains here a few days, and then I shall take my leave at Denton and carefully and faithfully deliver the keys by your order to Mr. Wardle, with the best account I can give him of your interest

and privilege there in any respect. I had done it at Easter had he come then, as he did intend, from Chester, but this other accident did prevent him. And as to the house at Denton, I understand your worship hath received the like suggestions for truth from the factious party relating to it with those they have formerly given upon other occasions, a plain experiment of the fallacy and falsity whereof I presume you yet remember I gave at our meeting face to face in the house of Mr. Swarbrook in Manchester. It is not yet four years since I left it upon the motions then made to me by my honoured friend Mr. Justice Warren and Dr. Shippen for what we had then in our eyes; and immediately before, I had the glazier, the masons and the slaters to it out of Stockport, Ashton and Dukinfield, as I can readily prove, who left nothing undone which they could think needful or fit to be done, either in the walls, the windows or the roof. And above a year after I left it I had a tenant for it (whose small rent is yet unpaid me, for which he left me a pair of Dutch looms in a room of it), upon whose coming I bought another load of lime to those four or five I had before, to beautify it further as he and his wife desired; and since then he got a man upon the roof to turn every drop he could meet with. But the truth is, since they are, and before I settled at Northen were, convinced they neither could nor must have Mr. Angier again for their minister, the house hath been as grossly abused as it was soon after he was cast out of it, when the loyal party, till my coming, were constrained to get men to lie in it lest the brutish saints had pulled it down, being by that spirit of meekness they so highly pretend to above all others instigated to it. And when Sir John Arderne came to hear by accident that some of the sanctified sprigs of those tender vines near the chapel, amongst others, acted like themselves in the breaking of the windows, he issued out his precept and constrained the tender vines to sprout forth the repairs of them again; and forced fruit is never of long continuance. He constrained them (not Mr. Angier after he had left the house) to do it. And though upon and after the removal of Mr. Angier, who was and is as great with them as Diana of old was with the Ephesians, the ceiling was wrested off the

walls in the house, which was there before either he or his uncle came thither; though the boards were forced up out of the windows, and from over the stable, the cratch and manger; and such work made in the shippen that my beasts could not be tied up there to rest in it securely till I had got it boarded new and fixed as I left it; yea though the very door was taken from the house of ease, and seats out of it; and all laid waste in the garden; and my precious friend deceased, your father-in-law, did write a letter in special to him thereupon, which he sent by one John Upton his butler to him, to restore and make good as there was reason; yet from that day to this it was never done, nor can be the least crime in him or such as did it. I can also make it evident (if occasion require) that when the kitchen was enlarged, the new parlour built, the wash-house, the stable, &c., or any remarkable repairs made, it was neither done by nor attempted in the least to be put upon old Mr. Angier; but either a ley was assessed throughout the chapelry (whereof there is an instance now in the hands of Thomas Lees one of the sureties for the money) or else the whole household of faith was acquainted, and thereupon such collection made as readily accomplished the thing to be done: notwithstanding, its repair, with too many other such like things, hath been grossly and shamefully put upon me, and I have endeavoured (though in vain) to have bought a peaceable being whilst I sojourned amongst them thereby. Nor can I yet forget how justly as well as kindly Mr. Angier at his departure left me a fair legacy of chimney-money to pay for the time that he himself enjoyed it.[1] Besides,

[1] By the 15 Car. II. c. 13 it is ordered that "notice be given publiquely in the church, and particularly to every inhabitant within the respective precincts that shall be the occupier of any house, edifice, lodgeing or chamber, that within ten days next after such notice he give a true and just accompt in writing under his hand .... of all hearthes and stoves in such respective house," in order to their being taxed. This tax was intended for the king's use, and was first levied at a time when, according to Hume (*Hist. of England*, vol. vii. p. 377, edit. 1793), his majesty's debts had become so "intolerable that the commons were constrained to vote him an extraordinary supply of £1,200,000, to be levied by eighteen months' assessment; and finding upon enquiry that the several branches of the revenue fell much short of the sums they expected, they at last, after much delay, voted *a new imposition of two*

when the house was built by the same joint and general charge that the chapel was, for their great ease and conveniency, being so very far distant from Manchester, the parish church, by the residency of a minister therein, I must acknowledge it beyond my weak apprehension to conceive how it should at all in equity or strictness be wrested in its repair from its first founders and repairers, of late time, and be obtruded for its supply now upon the minister in particular, especially when Peter is so notoriously robbed to clothe Paul — I mean the ancient and usual wages of the chapel of Denton to supply the barn of Dukinfield. If the poor minister thereof shall henceforth be expected to supply all defects, methinks he ought in conscience to receive all that anciently hath been received, to fit and enable him for it. At Gorton, the very next to it, the chapel, the house and the school are all repaired by them who built them; and I will very thankfully own a secure information from any of the complaints by what statute or canon there can be dilapidation, or the least defect made by others, charged upon him who is neither parson nor vicar, nor did ever receive induction? But I very well know it natural for the briar to scratch and the thorn to prick whatever is done. When I did at my first coming thither find as rude and wasteful work in the garden as in the buildings, after I had unadvisedly repaired the one I brought grafts to set clearly round about the other; I paid the gardener for setting them, and others who did assist and supply him as he desired; and whilst they are little and removable, Judge Warren, &c., have satisfied me they may as legally and justly be removed by me as rosemary or any other sort of flowers or roots I

shillings on each hearth, and this tax they settled on the king during his life." Macaulay, quoting (*Hist. of England*, vol. i. p. 287) from a contemporary ballad in the Pepysian Library, Cambridge, illustrates the unpopularity of the tax, which was enforced with considerable rigour:

> The good old dames whenever they the chimney-man espied,
> Unto their nooks they haste away, their pots and pipkins hide.
> There is not one old dame in ten, and search the nation through,
> But if you talk of chimney-men, will spare a curse or two.

The net annual receipt from this tax was £200,000. It was abolished by act 1 William and Mary, c. 10.

had therein set; and I have motioned either their seasonable removal or fit and reasonable consideration for them, but meet with the like apologies and devices in them as in other things; and if I leave all as I found it, I must not leave one of them, as well as too many other things I might mention. At my first coming also they did generally promise to pay me their proportions of chapel-wages which had been usually and anciently paid to Mr. Angier and others before him; but after some time I had fair experience of their gross hypocrisy and dissimulation; so that when there did afterwards come a season of respect and favour to the Church of England by a regular and due execution of the laws, I required further assurance of their former promises by subscriptions under their hands, which I think I did formerly shew to your worship and have lately shewed Mr. Wardle. And when I waited on my Lord Bishop for license and orders for Northen, I desired time (as was reasonable) for removal of what I had at Denton, and for getting in my arrears there, and his lordship did freely allow it, though no time in particular was fixed; but such as stand obliged by subscription have not yet manifested the honesty to pay me one farthing; and when they so grossly constrain me to sue for it themselves, then must I be reported by them a litigious man, minding only those perplexities of law which, could I avoid, I do utterly abhor. They have likewise contrived to detain the very interest money from me for the time I have supplied or procured supply for it. I demand but a quarter, which within a very few days I have supplied; and Mr. Angier had six months fully allowed him after he ceased preaching; and they have heretofore proffered to give me a year's income if I would acquit it and remove myself and family thence as now I have. These things I humbly beg your worship's consideration of, and do make it my last request that you will be pleased to signify to them your unwillingness to embrace or admit of any other to succeed me before they have honestly and justly paid me what I have carefully laboured for, which may probably prevent the charge and perplexity which otherwise will ensue; though whensoever you intimate it your pleasure either to me or Mr. Wardle, the keys shall as speedily be delivered up as I

can possibly bring or get them to either of you, but to no other person for all their specious pretences. I could likewise desire your worship would be pleased (if he be not a person known to you) to order that he whom they bring on hereafter to succeed me, may, before me, read the Divine Service and wear the surplice, and satisfy me of his hearty conformity and his due ordination, after which he may have readily the Warden's approbation. However, I trust I shall still enjoy the favour and respects of your worship and your ever honoured and precious lady, whom I shall as faithfully serve at any time hereafter in any respect within the limits of my poor capacity as any one that ever had the good providence to be known to you. And if I may fairly receive what is justly due to me at Denton, or be fairly assured of it in any fit time, though of right it appertains neither to me nor my successors, yet it shall no longer want if it do want, that repair I found it in, if anything reasonable will do it, for I have not seen it [the house] since I removed; and if they had pulled it quite down after they saw Mr. Angier must not come again to it, or should do now never so soon, it will certainly fall to their lot to make it good, and not his who neither doth the least injury to it nor knows anything in the world of it. I most humbly and cordially again thank your worship, my most worthy and endeared friend, your good lady and all with you, for expressions of kindness and favour and charity both to me and my family; and after this tedious (though constrained) trespass upon you, with my most earnest prayers to the Almighty for the future health, comfort and happiness of you and the fruit of your bodies bestowed upon you, I subscribe myself as in duty bound

Your most obedient, obliged and dutiful servant to command,

Northen[den,] ROGER DALE.

This 24 of April, 1691.

Addressed — "To the worthily honoured Sir John Egerton Baronet at Wrinehill these humbly present. Leave this with Mr. John Wardle Governor of the College at Manchester, to be sent as above directed."

Immediately on Mr. Dale's resignation the choice of the Warden and Fellows centred in Mr. Joshua Hyde, a relative of the then minister of Salford Chapel, the Rev. John Hyde, and probably also of Robert Hyde of Denton Esq., one of the trustees of the chapel.

The right of patronage being still in dispute, the Warden and Fellows, before proceeding to nominate, had, with their wonted caution, recourse to Sir John Egerton, whose acquiescence in the appointment of Mr. Hyde they endeavoured to obtain.

Honoured Sir,

I give you this trouble at the request of Mr. Hyde of Denton and the inhabitants of that chapelry, who having a desire that one Mr. Hyde, now preacher at Chorlton chapel in our parish, may come to Denton now vacant, have desired me to acquaint you both with my free consent for, and my recommendation of, the said Mr. Hyde, that you in behalf of your tenants there may be satisfied in the choice and join with the rest, and he being a person that I have a good report of as one that lives well and behaves himself honestly, I hope he will be able to do God and the Church good service in that place.

Your faithful friend and servant,

Manchester, Ric: Wroe.
May 4, 91.

Addressed — "For the Right Worshipful Sir John Egerton Bart. at Ryne Hill in Staffordshire."

To this letter Sir John Egerton replied as follows:

Mr. Warden,

Mr. Hyde of Chorlton chapel having your recommendation and being liked by Mr. Hyde of Denton and the chapelry there, I very well approve of him, and will order Mr. Dale to deliver the keys of the house, &c., to Mr. Wardle, governor of the College, who

shall deliver them to Mr. Hyde of Chorlton, which at present is the rest from

Sir,

Wrynehill, Your affectionate friend to serve you,
May 11, 91. J. Egerton.

The following extract from a letter of Mr. Wardle, governor of the College, Manchester, addressed to Sir John Egerton, also relates to Mr. Hyde's appointment to the vacated chapel:

The neighbourhood in Denton and Haughton have had one Mr. Hyde, who is a very honest conformable man, for some days at the chapel, and have declared and promised to pay part of their usual contribution to him, and most of them such as never would pay Mr. Dale. And now their request to your worship is that your worship would be pleased to admit him the said Mr. Hyde to come and preach and reside (being at want of a minister at the chapel) amongst them; and also 'tis desired your worship would please to allow the whole or part of your own and tenants' usual contribution. Your worship's tenants all do freely declare to allow whatever your worship is pleased to require or demand from them on that concern; and in order to your worship's approbation hereof, your answer is earnestly required by the return of the bearer, for Mr. Hyde of Denton would have a special messenger had not Robin Lee come at this time. I presume Dr. Wroe hath writ something to your worship in your behalf of the minister.

John Wardle.

Addressed — "ffor the right worshipful Sir John Egerton at Wrinehill, Staffordshire."

Mr. Hyde was thereupon formally nominated to Denton chapel by the Warden and Fellows of Manchester. His nomination bears date June 3, 1691, and is signed by Richard Wroe, Warden; Francis Mosley and George Ogden, Fellows.

We must assume Mr. Hyde to be at this time if not unordained

at least only in Deacon's orders, since although officiating heretofore at Chorlton chapel, a request is now made to the Bishop of Chester to ordain him, which perhaps had reference to his admission to Priest's orders. This appears from the following communication, addressed to the Rev. Mr. Entwisle the Bishop's chaplain, by Mr. Hyde's relative, the minister of Salford chapel.

Sir,

You may please to remember that when you was at Manchester (at dinner at the Hospital), Mr. Warden, Mr. Hyde of Denton, Mr. Mosley and I, requested of my lord that he would be pleased to ordain a young man in order to his being curate at Denton chapel, which is at great want of a minister and very desirous of the bearer Joshua Hyde. His lordship being assured of his good life, ordered him to be at the next ordination; you were then present, whose favour (you may remember) I begged for him, assuring you that he is a person of very good life. I make bold to renew my request for him. His father dying, he was forced to leave the University too soon; but he is very diligent, and I hope may do well. Several chapels about us are void, and are like to continue so if not supplied by young men. With my hearty service I am,

Sir,

Salford, Your most humble servant,

June 4, 91. Jo: Hyde.

Mr. Hyde's residence at Denton extended to little more than four years, when he resigned, having probably succeeded to some more substantial preferment. His successor was the Rev. Noah Kinsey M.A., of Pembroke College, Cambridge, B.A. 1669, M.A. 1677, who from a neighbouring cure was nominated to Denton by the Warden and Fellows September 23, 1695, and was licensed by the Bishop October 2nd. He lived to enjoy the preferment but for the short space of six months, and dying was interred May 22, 1696, in the aisle of the chapel, in the adjacent grave to that of his more celebrated predecessor Mr. Angier. On the death of Mr. Kinsey a

delay of some months followed in the appointment of a minister, occasioned either by the dissensions of those who claimed to be patrons, or by the unwillingness of any qualified person to succeed to an office which so scantily provided for the wants of him who held it. At length, early in the ensuing year, a successor was found in the person of the Rev. Daniel Pighells, who appears to have received his nomination from Sir John Egerton. Mr. Pighells was succeeded about the year 1707 by the Rev. John Berry M.A. of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, B.A. 1683, M.A. 1687, who does not seem to have held it long, being followed about the year 1709 by the Rev. John Jackson. From the second oldest extant register it appears by a written memorandum that there being a dispute betwixt the Rev. Joseph Dale minister of Denton and the inhabitants of Haughton about the right of nominating a warden for the latter township, the Rev. John Jackson reported upon oath before the Chancellor or visitation official, that he Mr. Jackson for the space of eleven years, as minister of Denton, chose a warden constantly out of the township of Haughton. This consequently determines the duration of Mr. Jackson's ministry at Denton, namely eleven years, and he probably vacated the preferment not by death but by resignation about 1720, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Grey. Of this curate nothing has survived except an allusion to his resignation of the cure conveyed in a letter from Holland Egerton Esq., the son of the patron, to the Bishop of Chester, in which the former recommends to his lordship for his license the Rev. Joseph Dale.

My Lord,

Upon Mr. Grey's resignation of Denton chapel the last summer, one Walker who came well recommended to me obtained my letter in his behalf to your lordship begging your license. He was to wait upon you with it once, but was disappointed of seeing your lordship that time, he living at a distance in Derbyshire; and having some knowledge of the humours of the people at Denton and pretty good preferment, which made him indifferent as to his choice and not so diligent in attending upon your lordship on that account,

till pressed by me (at the request of the chapelry) to come to some determination or other, he at last signified by not designing to proceed further in it. Whereupon the chapelwardens have attended me with a petition signed by the inhabitants desiring I would gratify them with nominating Mr. Dale schoolmaster of Stockport to officiate there as a person that was very acceptable to them, and to whom they had, under their hands, engaged to contribute a handsome annual salary. I presume your lordship is no stranger to the character of these people, whose indifference to the Church is so great that a small disobligation will be sufficient to make them join the Dissenters, which even some occasionally do at any time. I would not however make them any further promise than by submitting him entirely to your lordship's judgment and approbation, to whom he is, I conceive, not unknown; and if his character is not so unblemished (in one notorious instance) as it were to be wished, yet if his repentance and after conduct has so far reconciled your lordship to him as to allow him your license for this place, he shall have all the encouragement I can give him; and although some family affairs and misfortunes, and lately the death of my eldest son of the smallpox, has retarded my progress in getting up the sum for the late Queen's Bounty, yet I hope before Michaelmas to be ready with it, upon the prospect of having our family's nomination of the chaplain secured us according to the design and will of the founder. I am with the greatest deference and respect,

My Lord,

Heaton, Your lordship's most obedient, humble servant.

May 3, 1723. Holland Egerton.

Mr. Dale at this time held the mastership of the endowed grammar school of Stockport, and had been introduced to the notice of Sir John Egerton by a petition from the inhabitants of Denton soliciting his appointment to the vacant chapel. Sir John, as we have seen, from his son's letter, acceded to their request and consented to nominate him, in which he was seconded by the following letter from Mr. William Shrigley, a lawyer of some eminence and father of the

Rev. William Shrigley chaplain of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, addressed to the Chancellor of the Diocese, and designed, it might appear, to overcome any unwillingness which the recollection of Mr. Dale's past misconduct might have given rise to in the mind of the Bishop.

Good Sir,

Mr. Dale of Stockport is the bearer. He waits on you for a license to Denton chapel, which I dare presume to say will be of good consequence as he is desired by the chapelry and is a man able to do service to the Church in the chapelry famous for conceited and hardened sectaries. I send you enclosed a copy of the people's request to Mr. Egerton. He has applied to the Bishop; I did not know it till I received one from my lord two posts ago, which tells me that if his officers have no just objection to Mr. Dale, he will consent that he shall be curate of Denton. I beg Sir that no delay may obstruct it, for I hope and believe for the future Mr. Dale will so behave in all respects as not to deserve otherwise than the respect of every good churchman. I expect to hear from my lord in two posts, and am glad he's well after his fatigue. Mr. Egerton presents his humble service to you. The chapel has been sadly neglected, and there are three conventicles near it; but I dare say Mr. Dale will bend if not break 'em.

I am, good Mr. Chancellor,

Your most obliged and sincere servant,

WILLIAM SHRIGLEY.

The date of Mr. Dale's nomination to Denton was June 7, 1723. He held the cure for a period of twenty-seven years, and resigned it February 23, 1750.

On the resignation of Mr. Dale, the Rev. William Williams M.A., senior Fellow of Brazenose College, Oxford, was nominated (March 13, 1750) by Sir Thomas Grey Egerton. Some hesitation having been manifested by the Bishop of Chester, who expressed himself in

doubtful terms as to the actual patrons of the chapel, (this being the last occasion on which the Warden and Fellows resisted the right of the Holland family and their descendants and representatives the Egertons to the exclusive patronage,) Sir Thomas Grey Egerton caused a *Quare impedit* to be issued, which, to quote the elegant phrase of the curate elect in a letter to his patron, "clean washt his lordship's stomach," and led to his (Mr. Williams's) immediate induction.

Mr. Williams died in the year 1759, and was succeeded by the Rev. William Jackson B.A., whose nomination by Sir Thomas Egerton bears date July 6, 1759.

Mr. Jackson held the preferment till his death in conjunction with the mastership of the endowed grammar school at Stockport.

On the 24th of September 1791 the Rev. William Parr Greswell was nominated by Lord Grey de Wilton to the chapel of Denton, void by the death of the Rev. William Jackson. Mr. Greswell was the son of Mr. John Greswell of the city of Chester, and was baptized in the parish church of Tarvin in the county of Chester June 23, 1765. On the 20th of September 1789 he was ordained as a literate person to the stipendiary curacy of Blackley in Manchester parish, on the nomination of the Rev. John Griffith. Whilst residing at this place he became acquainted with the first Earl of Wilton, who discerning in Mr. Greswell attainments of no common order, appointed him tutor to his only son, and two years afterwards conferred on him the incumbency of Denton, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Jackson. Though of small pecuniary value, Mr. Greswell accepted the preferment, which he continued to hold uninterruptedly for the long period of sixty-three years. In addition to the discharge of his clerical duties, Mr. Greswell addressed himself in his earlier years to the education of private pupils, and his fitness for the task may be inferred from the following results which attended his efforts on behalf of his sons, all of whom were indebted to him for their earlier education: 1. William Greswell, Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford, B.A. 1818, M.A. 1820; 2. Edward Greswell,

Fellow and Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, B.A. 1819, M.A. 1822, B.D. 1830, elected in 18— President of his College, which appointment he declined, fearing that the duties of the office would withdraw him from his studies; 3. Richard Greswell, Fellow and Tutor of Worcester College Oxford, B.A. 1822, M.A. 1825, B.D. 1836; 4. Francis Hague Greswell, Fellow of Brazenose College, Oxford, B.A. 1826, M.A. 1829, in which latter year he was ordained to the stipendiary curacy of Denton on his father's nomination, where he died in 1830 aged 26 years; 5. Clement Greswell, Fellow and Tutor of Oriel College, Oxford, B.A. 1827, M.A. 1831, appointed in 1840 to the rectory of Tortworth in Gloucestershire. Mr. Greswell had also two other sons both now deceased, Charles, in the medical profession, and Thomas, master of the Chetham Hospital, Manchester.

In 1853, when age and infirmity had incapacitated him from the further discharge of his ministerial functions, he ceased from the chapel, his resignation being received by the Bishop of the diocese, who in compliment to Mr. Greswell visited Denton expressly for the purpose. He did not long survive his resignation, dying January 12, 1854, in the ninetieth year of his age, and was interred on the 18th of the month in the chapel-yard of Denton, the Bishop of Manchester officiating at his interment.

Mr. Greswell was the author of the following literary works:

1. Memoirs of Angelus Politianus, Johannes Picus of Mirandula, Actius Sincerus Sannazarius, Petrus Bembus, Hieronymus Fracastorius, Marcus Antonius Flaminius, and the Amalthei; translations from their poetical works, and notes and observations concerning other literary characters of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Manchester, 1801, 8vo. A second edition of this work was published in 1805.
2. Annals of Parisian Typography, containing an account of the earliest typographical establishments of Paris, and notices and illustrations of the most remarkable productions of the Parisian Gothic Press. London, 1818, 8vo.

3. The Monastery of St. Werburgh, a Poem. 1823, 8vo.
4. A View of the Early Parisian Greek Press, including the lives of the Stephani, notices of other contemporary Greek printers of Paris, and various particulars of the literary and ecclesiastical history of their times. Edited by [his son] Edward Greswell B.D. Oxford, 1833, 2 vols. 8vo. There was afterwards printed at Oxford a "Sequel" to this latter work, but after a very few copies had been circulated it was suppressed by its author, for some reason unexplained.

On the resignation of Mr. Greswell in 1853, the Rev. Walter Nicol M.A. of the University of Glasgow was appointed by the patron, the Earl of Wilton, to succeed him. Mr. Nicol had for the two preceding years held the stipendiary curacy of Denton. He was ordained in 1848 to the curacy of Burslem in Staffordshire. In 1850 he accepted the curacy of Woodhead near Huddersfield in Yorkshire, whence in 1851 he removed to Denton.

The following is a complete list of the Ministers of Denton Chapel from the suspension of Mr. Broxholme in 1631 to the present time:—

—— 1631.	Charles Broxholme.
1632 — 1677.	John Angier.
1677 — 1678.	John Ogden.
1678 — 1691.	Roger Dale.
1691 — 1695.	Joshua Hyde.
1695 — 1696.	Noah Kinsey.
1696 — 1707.	Daniel Pighells.
1707 — 1709.	John Berry.
1709 — 1720.	John Jackson.
1720 — 1722.	—— Grey.
1723 — 1750.	Joseph Dale.
1750 — 1759.	William Williams.
1759 — 1791.	William Jackson.
1791 — 1853.	William Parr Greswell.
1853	Walter Nicol.

The sepulchral monuments at Denton are few in number and in no way remarkable; they consist altogether of mural tablets, and are affixed to the north wall of the chapel. The most conspicuous of these is one erected to the memory of EDWARD HOLLAND (only son of Colonel Holland) and his wife Ann, daughter of Edward Warren of Poynton in the county of Chester Esq. The epitaph is engraved on an oval brass plate beneath an entablature supported by two columns; above this inscription is a shield bearing the arms of the deceased — Holland, az. semée of fleurs-de-lis a lion rampant arg. Crest, out of a ducal coronet a lion rampant, as in the arms, holding in his dexter paw a fleur-de-lis; impaling the arms of Warren, chequy or and az., on a canton gu. a lion rampant arg. Crest (for Warren) on a chapeau gu. turned up erm. a wyvern, tail nowed arg. wings expanded chequy or and az. The whole of this monument, with the exception of the brass plate, is now covered with whitewash.

Redactus in Cineres
Hic dormit Edvardus Holland
Richardi Holland nūper de Denton in Coñ Lanc̃ arm̃
Filius Unicus.
Juvenis hic fuit
Præcocis admodum Ingenii; Penitioris prorsus Minervæ;
Gratissimæ Moralitatis; Spectatissimæ Probitatis;
Solidæ non Simulatæ Pietatis.
Ex ephebis vix excessit quin Palman aliis præripuit, nec
non facile evasit:
Familiæ suæ Decus et Ornamentum
Patriæ suæ Spes et Desiderium
Amicorum Delitiæ simul ac Solamen;
At eheu! inter omnium vota et amplexus immature expiravit
Et novercali variolarum insultu lugubre nobis exhibuit
Mortalitatis Specimen.
Quum sibi ipsi perenne struxit monumentum
Virescentem scilicet adhuc sui Memoriam.
Obiit iii° Calendarum Julii Anno Doñ MDCLV° et Ætat. suæ XXIX°.

Chara Deo, Dilecta viro
Sub hoc etiam cespite Jacet Anna Filia unigenita
Edvardi Warren
de Pointon in Com̃ Cestr̃ arm̃, et Edvardi Holland conjux Fidelis
Quondam ejusdem Lecti nunc vicini consors Sepulchri
Sic mortuorum amplectentes Cineres testantur viventium Amores.
Ultimum persolvit naturæ Debitum
xxiii Novembris Anno Dom̃ MDCLXVIII°.
Ætat. suæ XLI°.
Hâc pietatis Tessarâ ambobus parentavit
Unica utriusq; Filia superstes
Francisca Holland.

Near to the above is a plain marble slab from which the inscription is now all but effaced, the letters having been originally painted on the stone and not incised. It is commemorative of a daughter of the adjacent family of Arderne. The opening words are all that can be deciphered—"Near this place lyeth the body of ELEANOR ARDEN," and towards the close occurs the date November 1666.

The inscription is surmounted by a shield bearing the arms of the Arderne family. Gu. three cross-crosslets fitchée or, a chief of the second; impaling quarterly (for the family of Done) 1 and 6 az. two bars arg. over all on a bend gu. three broad arrows of the second; 2 vert a cross engrailed erm. over which on an escutcheon of pretence arg. a bugle strung sab. (Kingsley); 3 gu. a lion rampant arg.; 4 illegible; 5 az. two bars arg. (Venables). Crest double:—1 out of a ducal coronet or, a plume of five feathers arg. (Arderne); 2 a buck's head couped at the shoulders ppr. (Done).

Eleanor the daughter and coheiress of Sir John Done of Utkington Knt. became the wife of Ralph Arderne of Harden Esq., who was born in 1608, and died in 1651. She was mother of Sir John Arderne, High Sheriff of the county of Chester in 1660.

On a tablet of grey Derbyshire marble is the following inscription to the memory of MARY, widow of SIR RALPH ASSHETON of Mid-

dleton Bart. and sole daughter and heiress of Robert Hyde of Denton Esq. : — "Near this place lyeth the body of Dame Mary Asheton widdow and Relict of S^r Ralphe Asheton of Middleton Barr^t and daughter and heiress of Robert Hyde late of Denton Esq. She dyed at London 16^th of June 1721 and was buryed here the 6^th of July following." Above the inscription is a shield bearing the arms of the Asshetons of Middleton arg. on a mullet sa. an annulet or (on a canton the badge of Ulster), over all a shield of pretence bearing the arms of Hyde, az. a chevron between three lozenges or. Crest, a boar's head couped or.

There is also a more modern tablet to the memory of Joseph Blacklock of Salford, who died April 10, 1828, aged 67 years.

In addition to the above, are several inscriptions on the floor of the chapel near to the pulpit : —

1. "Here lieth the body of Mr. John Angier the late most Pious and Faithful Pastor of this Congregation, who rested from all his labours September 1, 1677, in the year of his Life 72, Ministry 49, at Denton 46."

2. "Here lieth the body of Margaret Angier late Loving Wife of John Angier, Pastor of Denton, who slept in Jesus October 28, mdclxxv. Isaiah lvii. ii."

3. "Here resteth y^e Body of y^e Reverend Mr. Noah Kinsey late Minister of Denton, buried May y^e 22, 1696, aged 56 years."

Denton chapel with its precincts forms the last resting place of many individuals possessing a local celebrity, of whom every sculptured memorial has perished. It was here, in the grave yard, that the remains of the first wife of Mr. Angier were deposited in December 1642, and subsequently in May 1661 those of her daughter Elizabeth, the wife of the Rev. Oliver Heywood. Mrs. Angier is said to have been the first person interred in the chapel yard, which is by some asserted never to have received consecration. In Mr. Angier's days Denton was the favourite resort of the nonconforming and ejected ministers, who finding it (as they designated it) a little Goshen in life, desired

a continuance of its peaceful associations in the slumbers of the tomb. Writing under the date January 11, 1666, Henry Newcome says (*Autobiography*, vol. i. p. 155), "We buried poor Mr. Leigh of Gorton[1] at Denton Chapel, by the day of the week the same day twelve months that we had before buried Mr. Eaton[2] at the same place." Here too was interred (September 21, 1689) Col. Robert Dukinfield of Dukinfield, governor of Chester Castle and one of the representatives of the city of Chester, celebrated as one of the members of the conclave before which the unfortunate Earl of Derby was tried in the year 1651, and named by the Earl in a letter to his equally celebrated Countess, wherein he advises her, being besieged by the parliamentary army in her castle in the Isle of Man, to make conditions and "agree with Col. Dukinfield, who, being so much a gentleman born, will doubtless for his own honour deal fairly with you." These all lie undistinguished by monument or sepulchral inscription, nor has any record survived telling of the last rites of Christian burial in the pages of the chapel registers, which commence at a later period, the earlier volumes having been lost.

[1] Mr. William Leigh, a serious, single-hearted man of good abilities, very laborious in the work of the ministry, one of the Classis of Manchester. He was grievously afflicted with the stone, which at last cut him off in 1664 [according to Newcome 1666] about fifty years of age. — Calamy's *Abridgment*, vol. ii. p. 412.

[2] Mr. Samuel Eaton, son of Mr. Richard Eaton vicar of Great Budworth, Cheshire, was educated at Oxford, and afterwards went into New England. Upon his return from thence he gathered a congregational church at Dukinfield, and afterwards removed to Stockport, where he preached in the Free School. Some of the people ran things to a mighty height and grew wiser than their minister, so that they created him abundance of difficulty. He was a good scholar and a judicious divine. He was turned out of the public exercise of his ministry in 1662, and afterwards attended Mr. Angier's ministry at Denton, as did many of his old hearers. He died January 9, 1664, aged 68. He left no child, but left a good name behind him among persons of all persuasions. He published "The Mystery of God Incarnate," against J. Knowles, 8vo, 1650, and A Vindication thereof against the said Knowles, 8vo. 1651. — Calamy's *Abridgment*, vol. ii. p. 412.

Extracts from the Registers of the Chapel.

1692. Mr. Ward's charges:

William Scott for the new Bell, being 226lb., the old 223lb. att 6d a pound for casting, and 12d a pound for new	05·14·06
Frances Wrigley for hanging the Bell	00·02·00
ffor carrige of ye Bell to and from Manchester	00·01·00
ffor expenses in waying ye Bell old and new	00·01·00
ffor spent at hanging ye Bell by order of ye Chappell Warden	00·01·00
1694. Pd. for a Wethercoke	00·02·00

1695. May 22, Buried at Denton, Noah Kinsey clerk; affidavitt made for him same day; Jo: Lees.

Sworne before Mr. Elison of Ashton under Lyne, buried in woollen.[1]

1696–7. March 6, Buried John son of John Hyde of Denton, born the same day; baptised I know not when.

1696–7. Baptised at Denton since we had a minister, &c.

1698. July 22, Buried Mary wife of Robert Hyde a squire.

1699. Oct: 28, Buried Robert Hide Esquire.

1699. An account of the names of all those that paid towards the buyinge of a Black for the use of the chappell in ye yeare of our Lord 1699; collected by James Somister and Robert Booth then Chappell-wardens. Denton, Sir John Egerton 2s 6d, Mr. Ralphe Ashton, 2s 6d, and 26 others; collected in all £1·2·1. Haughton, 23 subscribers; collected in all 11s. It is agreed upon and concluded by all those whose names are above written that they and their families

[1] In pursuance of Act 30 Charles II. c. 3, which imposed a penalty of £5 on the immediate friends of any deceased person buried in a shroud of linen or other material save woollen only. For further particulars in illustration of this statute vide *History of the Ancient Chapel of Blackley*, note, p. 85.

for ever shall be free to the Black; and all such persons as have not contributed shall pay accordinge as the then chappell-wardens shall order them. And if it so appen that two be to be buried upon one day, both contributers, that then they that first dyed shall have the use of it: ffurthermore it is agreed upon that the chappell-wardens shall have it in their custody.

1700. Oct: 15, Collected by us the sum of two shillings and five farthings towards y^e^ reliefe of y^e^ parish of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermonsey in y^e^ county of Surry: witness our hands,

Dan. Pighells, min. de Denton.
John Beswick } Chappell-wardens.
Robert Cook }

1701. Sept. 25, Collected then by us towards y^e^ Redemption of y^e^ Captives w^th^in y^e^ dominion of y^e^ Emperour of ffez and Morocooe y^e^ sum of three shillings and eight pence.[1]

Dan. Pighells, min. de Denton.

1702. April 15, Buried an abortioned child of Ana Gons of Denton.

1702. Feb: 20, Buried Mary Hall vagabond.

[1] The Christian captives detained in Algiers seem to have excited a very general sympathy about the year 1670, an interest which did not then subside, but which was continued to them during the early part of the succeding century. How they came into servitude does not appear: whether they were sold into slavery, as suggested by Walker in his *Sufferings of the Clergy*, or were made prisoners of war, or were captured by pirates, is not clearly ascertained. For their redemption, Lady Mico, widow of Sir Samuel Mico of London Knt., gave in 1670 the sum of £1,000, which amount was laid out in 1686 in the purchase of land. In 1827 an information was filed against Mr. Gibson and others (vide Attorney General *v.* Gibson, 2 *Beavan*, 317,) and at that time the rental of the purchased land was something like £3,000 a year, and the trustees had accumulated upwards of £115,000 Consols. Trustees were appointed in 1834, and their office is No. 20, Buckingham Street, Strand. The funds are applied towards the education of our emancipated slaves. — *Notes and Queries*, vol. ii. p. 12. Bishop Cosin, who died in 1671-2, left in his will a bequest of £500 "towards the redemption of Christian captives in Algiers."

1703. Married Alexander Colyer and Susannah Cheetham both of the parish of Manchester.

1704. Dec: 4, Bur. Susannah Cooke of Houghton a wandering vagabond out of Hyde.

1707. Oct: 8, Bapt. Thomas son of Peter Haughton of Haughton, was born at between 7 and 8 of the clock.[1]

1708. June 5, Bapt. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Bery parson of Denton.

1711. Feb: 10, Married the Rev. Joshua Smith of Holme in Yorkshire and Mrs. Elizabeth Pidgels of Denton.

1711. Sept. 16, Bapt. George son of y^e^ Rev. John Jackson Curate of Denton.

1712. Feb: 26, Married Mr. Samuel Bower of Manchester and Mrs. Elizabeth Smith of Taunton par. of Ashton.

1712. March 8 (Sunday) y^e^ day of her majesty Queen Ann's accession to y^e^ crown — Solomon y^e^ seventh son of John Tetlow of Houghton who were all then alive and there present with their father, mother, grandmother, &c., and was y^e^ first y^t^ was baptised in y^e^ new Font given by Holland Egerton Esq.

1713. March 5, Bapt. John y^e^ son of y^e^ Rev. Mr. Jackson Curate of Denton.

1714. Sept: 2, Bur. Benjamin Higginbottom of Denton drowned in Thorniley Pitt.

1714–15. Feb: 1 (Tuesday) ab^t^ noon, there happened a violent and terrible storm of wind w^ch^ shatter'd and blew down y^e^ highest and greatest part of y^e^ Yew Tree in y^e^ Chap^ll^ yard w^ch^ before was suppos'd to be one of y^e^ noblest and largest

[1] This particularity in inserting the precise hour of the child's birth may have arisen from a wish on the part of the child's friends to give facility to the astrologer in "casting the nativity," or telling the child's fortune in after years should it be desired. Thus in the registers of Hawstead in Suffolk the following entry occurs, "M^d^ That Mr. Robert Drury, the first son of Mr. William Drury Esquire, was born 30 Jan: betwixt 4 and 5 of the clock in the morning, the sunne in Libra, anno 1574."

in ye kingdom, being a very great ornament as well as shelter to ye Chappell.[1]

1715. Feb: 9, Married Mr. John Redish of Mottram and Mrs. Sarah Duckenfield of Duckenfield. Same day Samuel Bowden of Mellor par. of Glossop and Mary Redish of Mottram.

1716. Feb: 18, Bapt. Mary ye daughter of ye Rev. Mr. Jackson Curate of Denton.

1718. Dec: 18, Married Mr. Thomas Wagstaff of Glossop, Derbyshire, and Elizabeth Redish of Mottram in Cheshire.

1719. March 17, Bapt. Thomas, son of the Rev. Mr. Jackson, Curate of Denton.

1721. June 15, Married Robert Holden of Holden Esq. and Mrs. Martha Guilbody of Stockport.

1721. June 16, Bur. the Honble Lady Mary Ashton, who departed this life at Kingsinton [Kensington] and was interred the 6 of July att Denton Chappell.

1729. March 1, Bur. John Slater of Ashton parish, cast away at Bromstere.

1734. Sept: 8, Bur. Mrs. Susan Kinsey of Mottram.

1736. Dec: 6, Bur. Defiance ye daughter of Mr. Thomas Ireton Strengar.

1742. Sept: 2, Bur. Mary daughter of Mr. Thomas Hillard of Haughton, by an unfortenat deth.

1753. Martha Cooke of Town-lane, late of Lane-head in Denton, widow. Died near 9 o'th' Clock on Sunday night being the 21 of October, and buried the 24 of the same in

[1] Yew-trees were planted to the south side of the church to supply green for the decoration of churches at the great festivals, this tree being an emblem of immortality. It is a heathen prejudice which regards it as mournful.—*Handbook of English Ecclesiology*, p. 190. The yew-tree at Denton occupied a position at the south side of the chapel. It never recovered from the effects of this memorable storm, and was eventually cut down in the year 1800, and superseded in the following year by a small tree of the same species. This died, and a tree of another description has been substituted. The word *yew* is said to signify, in the ancient British language, *existent* or enduring, having the same root as *Jehovah*.

1753, in the 84 year of her age. Her funeral sermon was preached by Mr. Hegginbottom of Saddleworth from ye 1 Chap. of Philippians and part of ye 23 verse, "Having a desire to depart and to be with Christ which is far better."

1761. Abraham Cooke of Denton died on Wednesday ye 27 day of May and buried ye 29, 1761, who resided in the Town-lane 12 years. His funeral sermon preached by Mr. Jackson from the 11 Chap. of St. John and the 3 verse, "Therefore his sisters sent unto Him saying, Lord, behold he whom Thou lovest is sick." Aged 70.

1772. George Clarke, son of George Hyde Clarke the younger Esq. and Katharine his wife, born April 28, 1768, and christened in the parish of St. John at Dijon in Burgundy, was at the instance of his father and mother re-christened at the chapel of Denton this 19 day of July, 1772.

Edward Clarke, son of George Hyde Clarke the younger Esq. and Katharine his wife, born November 28, 1770, and christened in the parish church of St. Peter's at Lyons, was at the instance of his father and mother re-christened at the Chapel of Denton this 19 day of July 1772.

Hector Hyde, a negro servant of the said George Hyde Clarke Esq., aged 14, was baptised at the Chapel of Denton July 19, 1772.

1784. Dec: 10, Received the sum of seventeen shillings and ninepence, being the duties for 31 Burials and 40 Christenings from Oct: 1, 1783, to Oct: 1, 1784. John Garside.[1]

1807. An organ purchased for Denton Chapel by subscription of the inhabitants, the amount collected being £112 10s.; of which sum Denton contributed £32 10s. and Haughton £80.

[1] By Act 23 George III. c. 67, a duty of threepence was imposed on every registration of burial, birth, marriage, or christening, to be demanded by the clergyman officiating, from the undertaker, or the parties married, or the parents of the child whose birth or baptism was registered. By 25 George III. c. 75 this tax was extended to Dissenters. It was repealed by 34 George III. c. 11, the tax ceasing October 1, 1794. By a clause in this Act paupers were exempted from all payment.

1810. In this year the chapel yard was surrounded by a substantial stone wall at an expense of £182 18s. 10¾d. The cost was defrayed by assessment of the inhabitants, each of the two townships contributing its quota. The assessment having been found insufficient, a voluntary subscription, headed by George Hyde Clarke Esq. with a donation of £40, was entered into, which completed the sum required.

1815. At a vestry meeting of the ley-payers of the townships of Denton and Haughton, held in Denton Chapel on the 27th day of March 1815, agreeably to the notice duly given, It was ordered by the majority of persons together with the minister and chapel-wardens then present, that the sum of £100 shall be raised by a chapel-rate to be collected in equal proportions on both townships, viz. £50 upon the township of Denton and £50 on the township of Haughton, for the speedy repair of the said Chapel; and that the chapel-wardens appointed for the ensuing year shall take immediate measures for collecting the same — this being agreeable to an ancient usage from time immemorial. And it is further ordered that the said ley shall be made from the assessment of the Poor-rate.

The Registers commence in 1695. Up to the year 1711 the entries of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials are all mixed; after that date they are classified under separate heads, and the arrangement is more methodical.

BAPTISMS AND BURIALS.

Year.	Bapt.	Bur.	Year.	Bapt.	Bur.	Year.	Bapt.	Bur.
1695	wanting.	11	1701	10	12	1707	10	imperfect.
1696	do.	wanting.	1702	16	17	1708	7	do.
1697	do.	do.	1703	18	9	1709	7	do.
1698	do.	do.	1704	imp. 6	15	1710	3	2
1699	do.	do.	1705	16	14	1711	19	wanting.
1700	12	17	1706	20	imperfect.	1712	21	13

Year.	Bapt.	Bur.
1713	14	11
1714	30	10
1715	19	22
1716	23	15
1717	18	11
1718	16	12
1719	13	8
1720	20	10
1721	20	20
1722	wanting.	12
1723	24	wanting.
1724	17	22
1725	17	10
1726	32	34
1727	27	18
1728	16	26
1729	16	24
1730	14	24
1731	24	19
1732	30	12
1733	29	11
1734	30	17
1735	31	12
1736	22	30
1737	33	13
1738	31	5
1739	33	7
1740	25	21
1741	29	15
1742	18	20
1743	28	14
1744	18	21
1745	21	18
1746	21	10
1747	14	5
1748	10	13
1749	20	12
1750	21	28
1751	14	8
1752	20	10
1753	21	10
1754	24	11
1755	27	18
1756	28	25
1757	18	19
1758	22	14
1759	21	16
1760	24	15
1761	24	46
1762	33	26
1763	25	18
1764	40	20
1765	26	19
1766	23	26
1767	28	19
1768	20	61
1769	29	21
1770	27	37
1771	25	22
1772	20	33
1773	24	22
1774	19	17
1775	41	25
1776	37	31
1777	39	60
1778	44	17
1779	42	24
1780	47	43
1781	45	30
1782	51	30
1783	41	24
1784	45	42
1785	54	43
1786	58	41
1787	47	35
1788	61	47
1789	63	44
1790	64	54
1791	59	62
1792	80	49
1793	65	38
1794	50	58
1795	63	43
1796	67	37
1797	82	46
1798	64	40
1799	101	70
1800	55	42
1801	53	37
1802	102	59
1803	99	69
1804	135	54
1805	122	45
1806	107	48
1807	121	45
1808	67	34
1809	103	62
1810	97	68
1811	109	53
1812	108	58
1813	95	101
1814	189	47

Year.	Bapt.	Bur.
1815	118	47
1816	104	71
1817	117	57
1818	112	71
1819	115	75
1820	134	70
1821	130	65
1822	155	82
1823	163	84
1824	169	57
1825	168	93
1826	180	92
1827	131	68
1828	199	92
1829	181	90
1830	174	74
1831	200	83
1832	198	89
1833	218	88
1834	211	100
1835	207	90
1836	210	65
1837	246	82
1838	176	90
1839	176	107
1840	176	78
1841	165	83
1842	129	72
1843	157	86
1844	147	50
1845	172	76
1846	162	74
1847	110	95
1848	108	76
1849	96	82
1850	126	71
1851	139	75
1852	116	81
1853	96	112

MARRIAGES.

Year.	Mar.	Year.	Mar.	Year.	Mar.	Year.	Mar
1698	3	1716	9	1726	2	1744	1
1699	5	1717	7	1732	1	1746	1
1703	6	1718	12	1735	1	1747	2
1711	8	1719	6	1737	3	1748	1
1712	3	1720	4	1738	2	1754	1
1713	2	1721	3	1741	3		
1714	4	1723	2	1742	1		
1715	8	1725	1	1743	2		

The solemnization of marriages ceased at Denton chapel in 1754, in obedience to an Act passed 26 George II., entitled "An Act for the better preventing Clandestine Marriages." The effect of this statute was to put an immediate check upon marriages solemnized in district chapels, the incumbents being evidently deterred from the further exercise of their function by a literal construction put upon certain words in that Act, and especially by the clause commencing, "And whereas many persons," &c., and the penalty annexed to the solemnization of matrimony in any other place than a "church or

public chapel where banns have been usually published," &c. It may however be doubted whether these prohibitions did not rather contemplate the prevention of marriages in prisons (as, for instance, the notorious Fleet marriages) and other improper places than in regular parochial chapels where the parties contracting marriage might happen to be resident. The privilege has lately been resumed under the provisions of the Manchester Rectory Division Bill, by which St. James's, Denton, is constituted a separate and independent rectory.

Limited as was the accommodation afforded by this solitary ecclesiastical structure, it was all that Denton supplied for upwards of three hundred years. The chapel contained but three hundred sittings, not one of which was free or unappropriated; adequate indeed at first for the wants of the people, and even until 1714 sufficient, when the population of the two townships would scarcely exceed three hundred souls, but gradually ceasing to be so as the number of the resident families increased. In 1774 there was but provision for one in every four of the inhabitants; in 1801, for one in eight; in 1811, for one in ten; in 1821, for one in thirteen; in 1831, for one in nineteen; and in 1841, for one in twenty-three; presenting an instance of spiritual destitution which had scarcely a parallel. Towards the close of the decade (1841–51) efforts were made to meet the evil, but insuperable difficulties presented themselves. The staple trade of the two townships had long been the manufacture of felt and beaver hats, a branch of trade which at that time had fallen into decay, and was even threatened with extinction in consequence of the recent invention and general adoption of the silk hat. Instead of accommodating themselves to the new order of things the inhabitants clung pertinaciously to their old occupation, and treating the new trade with contempt, permitted it to locate itself elsewhere, thereby entailing upon themselves poverty and ruin. Under such circumstances Denton had but few resources within itself for a work of such magnitude as was now required.

At this crisis the Rev. Richard Greswell, Tutor of Worcester College Oxford, a native of Denton and son of the Incumbent,

addressed himself to the question of providing additional Church accommodation, and in a spirit of princely munificence which must ever cause his name to be held in the profoundest respect, resolved to build and endow another church in the district, together with schools and parsonage-house, and also to erect a parsonage-house and schools for the existing chapel. This he designed to accomplish as far as might be with the co-operation of his neighbours, supplying from his own private resources whatever deficiency might remain. The bounds of a new district had been already marked out under the provisions of Act 6 and 7 Victoria, c. 37, and having completed elegant and commodious schools for this district, he turned his attention to the projected church. From the Earl of Wilton he obtained an eligible site, in extent upwards of two acres statute measure, together with a contribution of £100, and certain cottages within the limits of the intended churchyard worth £250, which have since been swept away. Towards the building fund the Rev. Richard Greswell contributed £500; the Rev. W. P. Greswell (his father) £100; the Rev. Edward Greswell £100; the Rev. William Greswell £50; the Rev. Clement Greswell £50; the Marchioness of Westminster £100; the Chester Diocesan Church Building Society £400; the Ecclesiastical Commissioners £250; the Incorporated Society £400; the Dean and Chapter of Manchester £50; Edward Loyd Esq. £50; William Slater Esq. £50; E. L. Sidebotham Esq. £50; John Sidebotham Esq. £50; Miss Woodiwiss £50; William Peacock Esq. £50; J. C. Harter Esq. £50.

The church (which received the name of Christ Church) stands nearly due east and west, adjacent to the turnpike road from Hyde to Manchester. It was erected from plans furnished by George Gilbert Scott Esq. of London, and the total cost of its erection was £5300. It comprises a nave 83 feet long by 29 feet 6 inches wide and 44 feet high; side aisles, the longest, that to the south, 83 feet long, 18 feet 6 inches wide and 36 feet high; the length of the other is decreased by the area covered by the base of the tower; a chancel 40 feet long, 29 feet 6 inches wide and 41 feet high; a

tower at the north-west corner, 22 feet square and 65 feet high, surmounted by a spire 75 feet high. The vestry is upon the north side of the chancel, and is about 11 feet 6 inches square. The building is entirely of stone parpoints from Kerridge rocks near Macclesfield, with quoins, window-dressings and other requisites of Yorkshire stone from various quarries. The aisles and chancel are gabled, and the gables are finished with pierced crosses. The tower is a fine structure, supported at each corner by two-stage buttresses. The belfry windows are of two lights under a corbel label, with two tiers of spire lights. The main entrance to the church is by a beautiful doorway in the north face of the tower, formed of pillars and arches. There is another door in the south aisle, and a third leads into the vestry; all are fitted with oak doors appropriately ornamented. Internally the building is divided into five bays, on the south side by as many pillars (alternately octagonal and round,) and supporting arches upon which the roof rests; on the north side, the area of the tower circumscribes the length by one bay, and the principal entrance consequently occupies the place of one window. There are five windows on the south side of two lights each, with trefoils and quatrefoils over them, the whole seated in openings, recessed about 2 feet 6 inches, with flat sills. Each aisle is finished at the east end by large windows of two lights, with a triplet circular light trefoiled over one, and a triangular triplet light over the other. At the bottom of the nave is a fine window of three lights, differing considerably from the rest, and of a rich character. The chancel is separated from the nave by an arch about 33 feet in height, with double face, the lower member springing from an ornamented corbel on each side supporting dwarf columns, with a label-moulding over the whole, terminated by carved heads. The chancel itself rises one step of six inches from the rest of the church, and the communion-area, which is about twelve feet deep, by two steps of six inches each, and upon the top step is placed a moveable rail of pierced work in quatrefoiled diamond. The whole is lighted by a noble east window of four lights slightly enriched, under a label-moulding stopped by carved heads. At present the window has only plain glass in it, but ulti-

mately it will no doubt be more appropriately occupied with stained glass. On the south side of the chancel are three windows of two lights each, with ashlar quoins, flush with plaster (the finishing of all the windows throughout the church), and trefoil and quatrefoil heads; that within the communion-rails is lower than the rest, and assumes somewhat the character of sedilia. There are two windows on the opposite side, the vestry occupying the rest of the space. The pulpit is octagonal, and stands on the north side of the chancel-arch on a base of stone, elevated by five steps above the floor; it is of pitch pine varnished, disposed in diamond shaped panels quatrefoiled, the wood forming the centre of the panel having been selected from large timber with some care, so as to obtain for each a piece showing the peculiar deep grain of the wood. In this respect it is perhaps unique, and presents a singular illustration of what beautiful effects may be produced from the simplest of materials. The reading desk on the other side of the arch is square, upon a stone base and of pine wood, of characteristic design. The font stands near the south door; it is of Caen stone, octagonal in form; and the bowl in panels with appropriate emblems, is about 1 foot 8 inches in diameter; the whole about 4 feet 6 inches in height. The roofs are of high pitch, open-timbered, a different mode of construction being observable in each of the three divisions. The accommodation in the church is as follows: nave and aisles 528; chancel 38; the lower end of the nave for choir and children 241. The seats are made of pine varnished, and are entirely open, the chancel having four of them on each side. When the excavations for the tower were commenced the workmen came upon a bed of quicksand which had to be dug out, and a depth of 22 feet was reached before solid ground was arrived at.

Christ Church, Denton, was consecrated October 13, 1853, the sermon being preached by the Bishop of Oxford. The collection after the sermon amounted to £427.

It might have been supposed that the protracted period of Mr. Angier's ministrations at Denton and the deservedly high esteem in which his character was held, would have contributed much to per-

petuate the growth of dissent in the township; but such does not appear to have been the case; and as, notwithstanding the numbers of the population steadily advanced, we trace no increase of accommodation provided by the old chapel, we are compelled with reluctance to believe that the excitement of change once over, a state of apathy and indifference succeeded. It is true that in 1723 Mr. Shrigley of Manchester, when addressing the Chancellor of Chester in support of a petition from the inhabitants requesting the Rev. Joseph Dale's appointment to the chapel, alludes to the existence of "three conventicles" near to it, imputing this to past and perhaps unavoidable neglect on the part of the clergy, who from the scanty endowment of the benefice were compelled to seek additional duty elsewhere, involving in it also a removal of residence from Denton; but it does not nevertheless appear that Dissent ever reigned paramount or maintained any temporary advantage it might enjoy.

Like many other neighbourhoods, Denton was indebted for whatever revival it experienced, to the zeal of John Wesley and his followers, who here as well as in many other places kept alive a faint spark of religious feeling, which before had well nigh become extinct.

It was in the year 1816 that the Wesleyans erected a chapel in the township capable of containing about 300 persons; it is of brick and consists of two stories, the upper room being used as a chapel and the lower room devoted to the purposes of a Sunday school. In 1853 the number of scholars attending the school was, boys 100, girls 120, total 220. There is no Day school. Connected therewith is a library of 200 volumes.

In May 1836 the Independents established a footing in Denton, and in the following year they erected a commodious place of worship, to which the name of "Hope Chapel" was given. It is a plain brick building, and has been twice enlarged. The site is held subject to a small ground-rent. It accommodates 500 persons. In 1853 a Sunday school and class rooms were added, capable of holding 300 children. In that year the number of scholars attending the

Sunday school was 260. There is no Day school. Connected with the school is a library consisting of 300 volumes.

Until the year 1855 the only Day school of a public character for the twin townships of Denton and Haughton was the school situated near the entrance to the chapel yard. It was of two stories, and was rebuilt, as appears from an inscription over the doorway, in the year 1814. The structure, which is of brick, was used both as a Day and Sunday school in connexion with the old chapel. It was in every respect unsuited to the purposes for which it was designed, and was during the present year (1855) superseded by a structure possessing greater convenience. In 1853 the number of scholars in the Day school was, boys 66, girls 40, total 106. Sunday school, boys 185, girls 181, total 366. Connected with the Sunday school is a library of 200 volumes.

In 1853 the foundation stone of the new schools just referred to was laid by Miss Fletcher, the daughter of the donor of the site, Jacob Fletcher Fletcher Esq. They are within a short distance of the chapel, at the junction of the two townships, and are arranged to suit the latest and most approved system of education recommended by the Committee of Council on Education. They are of stone, and consist of two rooms 65 feet by 18 feet, with a class room attached to each, 20 feet by 16 feet. They will accommodate about 300 children, and are so contrived as to be under the supervision of one master, or they can be entirely separated as occasion may require. Adjoining the schools is a neat-looking and comfortable residence for the teacher. There are two spacious play-grounds for the scholars, which, with the schools, occupy half an acre of land. The style of architecture is that which prevailed in England in the latter part of the fifteenth century, known as the Tudor. The total cost of their erection as contracted for was £1,660.

The principal subscribers to the building fund were, the Committee of Council on Education £500; National Society £110; Rev. Edward Greswell £50; Messrs. Walton (Haughton Dale) £50; Miss Atherton £50; William Sidebotham Esq. (Werneth) £25; and Miss Burdett Coutts £20.

The schools owe their origin to the Rev. Richard Greswell, and to his perseverance and energy the successful carrying out of the design must be ascribed.

On the completion of the schools there was a deficit in funds of upwards of £900, the whole of which has been paid by Mr. Greswell.

This was not however Mr. Greswell's earliest effort to promote the spread of education in his native village. In 1846, when contemplating the erection of an additional church (Christ Church) in the township, he anticipated the completion of his design by the erection of schools, which, until the church should be built, were to answer the double purpose of church and school. They form, with the teacher's house, a handsome pile of building on the north side of the turnpike road from Manchester to Hyde, and are only a few yards distant from the church. They are of stone, were completed at a cost of £1,750, to which the Rev. Richard Greswell himself contributed £250. He was assisted by grants of £500 from the Committee of Council, and £350 from the National Society. The Marquis of Westminster subscribed £100; the Marchioness of Westminster £25; James Smith Esq. £100; Rev. William Parr Greswell, Incumbent, £50; Rev. Edward Greswell £50; Miss Woodiwiss £50; William Slater Esq. £20; John Sidebotham Esq. £20; the Lord Bishop of Manchester £10; Rev. Canon Parkinson £10 10s.; Rev. Canon Sergeant £10 10s.; Miss Atherton £10; Miss Marshall £10; Rev. James Hannay £10; G. G. Scott Esq. £10. The site was given by the Earl of Wilton.

In 1853 the number of scholars in the Day school was, boys 120, girls 70, total 190. Sunday school, boys 96, girls 74, total 170. Connected with the Sunday school is a library which already numbers 120 volumes.

There is also in the township one private or dame's school, which numbers 18 scholars of both sexes, chiefly infants.

The following table exhibits the present state of education in Denton:

Day Scholars. St. James' school 106; Christ Church school 190; private school 18; total 314.

Sunday Scholars. St. James' school 366; Christ Church school 170; Hope Chapel school (Independent) 260; Wesleyan school 220; total 1,016.

Connected with these schools are four libraries, which contain an aggregate of 820 volumes.

It is worthy of observation that with the single exception of the £100 left by Richard Holland Esq. for the chapel's early endowment, not a single charitable bequest is to be found in connexion with Denton, beyond the joint participation it has with other townships in charities which extend their operations over the entire parish. The same remark applies also to the adjacent township of Haughton.

HAUGHTON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Haughton is situated about eight miles south east from Manchester, in the Poor-law Union of Ashton-under-Lyne, to which it elects one Guardian, and in the Polling District of Manchester. Its earlier annals are so completely involved in obscurity as to have led to the assertion that the township remained undiscovered until the formation, some years since, of the Manchester and Hyde turnpike road, which first brought it to light. It contained in 1853 fifty-nine county voters.

It is bounded on the north by Audenshaw, on the south and east by the river Tame, and on the west by Denton.

Haughton derives its name from the Anglo-Saxon *Haugh*, a hill, and signifies a town or village placed on an eminence; the township being, in point of elevation, higher than any other in the parish of Manchester. The river Tame separates Haughton from the adjacent county of Chester, and the picturesque valley through which it flows is known as Haughton Dale.

Its orthography has undergone several transitions — Outon, Holnton, Halghton, Hallerton, and more recently Houghton or Haughton. In England and Wales there are thirty places thus designated. The similarity of the name it bears with West-Houghton which lies on the opposite side of Manchester, and Hoghton near Preston, gives rise to much uncertainty as to the place referred to in the various ancient documents relating to the county. Haughton is named, together with the twin township of Denton, in the record of a trial in the reign of Edward I. with respect to certain disputed privileges claimed by the Abbot of Cokersand, who, resting on a charter granted by King John, attempted, though unsuccessfully, on behalf of himself and his monks, to establish a right of exemption from the payment of all fines and taxes within the limits of the township.[1] From time immemorial Haughton has possessed the right of a Manor Court, and in 1322 the tenants of Hallerton (or Holnton), in the lower baili-

[1] *Placita de quo warranto Rolls*, pp. 379, 381.

wick of Manchester, had to contribute towards the support of the Bailiff of the Manor.

The Survey and Valuation of the Manor of Manchester, taken in the year 1322, imposes a penalty upon such of the villagers of Horwich as neglect to provide maintenance for the lord's foresters during the breeding-time of the hawks; the foresters are enjoined to watch diligently during the period of incubation, and to receive the young birds at the hands of the villagers; and should the decreed assistance be refused by the villagers, being impleaded in the Court of Manchester they (the villagers) shall be punished by the customs of ploughing,— to wit, they shall plough every bovate of land, arable of old time, and not of new clearing, belonging as well to Nicholas de Longford as to his tenants and to all other persons in Whitington, Ditesbury, Barlo, Chollerton, Denton and Holfton.

The earliest Population Returns for Haughton are in the year 1645,— derived from the document already quoted as furnishing the particulars of each inhabitant's contribution towards the "quarterly wages of the preaching minister at Denton Chapel."[1] At this period there were but 24 houses in Haughton, representing a population of about 120 souls.

[1] From the same source we learn the then population of Hyde township: Houses, 12; inhabitants, 60. Their several names and assessments are as follow: —

Mr. Edward Hyde, for Hyde House	00 . 10 . 00
Jonas Shawe	00 . 00 . 07
Henry Wylde	00 . 00 . 07
Joseph Smith	00 . 00 . 06
Benjamin Gee	00 . 00 . 07 ob
Elizabeth Shepley, widow	00 . 00 . 04
John Gee de Foxholes	00 . 00 . 06
Jane Higham, widow	00 . 00 . 07
Thomas Hollinworth	00 . 00 . 04
Robert Wilson	00 . 00 . 06
John Stopford	00 . 00 . 04
The House where Henry Wylde lived, which was Hadfield's	00 . 00 . 07
	00 . 15 . 05½

HAUGHTON IN THE SAME CHAPPELRY.

Edward Shawe	00·00·04
Martha Cook, widow, and her grandson John..	00·02·00
Robert Bagguley	00·01·04 ob
Robert Hardy	00·01·11
Andrews	00·01·00
Mris Mary Angier	00·01·04 ob
John Torkington	00·01·08 ob
Joseph Stockport	00·01·00
Peter Hyde	00·00·06
Samuel Hyde	00·02·00
Jasper Hallewell	00·00·08
Joseph Torkington	00·00·08
Nicholas Haughton	00·01·08
Charles Shepley	00·01·05
Daniel Hobson	00·01·02 ob
John Haughton	00·01·02
Robert Lowe and Humphrey Coop	00·02·02
Edmund Tetlow	00·02·00
Robert Booth and Margaret his mother	00·01·05
Thomas Booth and Joseph Wagstaffe	00·02·06
Thomas Hyde and Jane his mother	00·01·11 ob
Fittons and Thomas Booth	00·00·07
John Thorp	00·01·07
Woosencroft's, now Mr. Hyde's	00·01·03
	01·13·04½

In 1774 the number of houses had increased to 116, inhabitants 615, — of whom 249 were under the age of fifteen years, 74 above fifty, 14 above sixty, 9 above seventy, and 2 above eighty.

In 1801 the population numbered 1139; in 1811, 1526; in 1821, 2084; in 1831, 2914; in 1841, 3319; in 1851, 3042.

In 1655 there were 30 ratepayers in the township, and the aggregate poor's rate collected in the six months ending November

25, was £7·1·10¼. Amongst the ratepayers were Mr. Hyde for Hales Eyes, Mr. Ashton, Robert Thorpe, Widow Hyde, Robert and George Booth, John Tetlow, Alexander and Ralph Haughton, Thomas Torkinton, Ralph Shelmerdine, &c. In 1828 the same rates were £225; in 1838, £348·9·0; in 1847, £414·13·0; and in 1853, £954. In this latter year the number of ratepayers was 231.

In 1692 the annual value of real property in the township, as assessed to the land tax, was £190·5·0; in 1815, as assessed to the county rate, £2449; in 1829, to the same, £5604; in 1841, £7610; and in 1853, £5636.[1]

In 1853 the gross annual value of property rated to the poor was £7113. In this latter year there were in Haughton 7 public-houses and 7 beer-houses.

The superficial area of the township, as computed by Rickman in the Population Returns of 1831, was 1130 acres, which was declared to be its extent in the Census Returns of 1851. Messrs. Johnson and Son's Survey estimates it at 868 acres, and the Ordnance Survey at 887a. 1r. 37p.

The total number of land-owners in Haughton in the year 1853 was 26, of whom the principal were —

	A.	R.	P.
Edward Hyde Clarke Esq	285	3	13
Edward Lowe Sidebotham Esq	112	2	14
Mr. David Shaw Clayton	68	1	26
John Sidebotham Esq.	51	3	30
Miss Bentley (Haughton Hall)	45	4	18
Incumbent of Denton Chapel	26	1	38
Executor of the late John Bowker Esq. of Prestwich	25	0	37

The manufactures, &c., of the township in 1853 consisted of two mills for cotton spinning, Messrs. Moore and Brooke's (assessed at

[1] The decrease of population in the township and the depreciation in the value of the land, in the decade 1841–51, is to be ascribed to the falling-off in the felt hat trade and the exhaustion of some coal pits.

£148) and Messrs. Taylor and Rockliff's (assessed at £135); one weaving shed, in the occupation of Messrs. Rowbotham and Leigh, assessed at £252; and one patent card manufactory (Messrs. James Walton and Co's), assessed at £200. There were also three collieries in the respective tenure of Messrs. Thomas Shaw, John Bradbury, and Jacob Fletcher Fletcher. The original staple trade of the township, the manufacture of hats, has not yet become quite extinct.

At a little distance from the Hyde road, towards the north, stands Haughton Hall, at one period probably the residence of the old local family of that name. In the reign of Elizabeth, Ralph Haughton, as a neighbouring landed proprietor, received a grant of twenty-two acres of the waste lands in Denton, which were at that time enclosed and brought under cultivation. Another of its members, Thomas Haughton of Haughton, a royalist, compounded in 1646 for his estate by the payment of £2·10. The hall itself was originally a half-timbered structure, traces whereof still remain in the outbuildings, which bear the initials T B, M B, and the date 1678. At this period the estate was owned by a family named Booth; their occupation continued at the beginning of the last century, when the hall was rebuilt in brick, as appears from the initials H B and the date 1723 on its principal front. It afterwards passed to the Holfords, a family possessing considerable property in the neighbourhood of Manchester, from whom it was purchased by Mr. John Bentley, a hat manufacturer in the township, whose daughters succeeded to the estate on the death of their father in 1847, and now reside at the hall.

Amongst the more influential of the families anciently possessed of lands in the township must be enumerated the Hydes of Hyde and Norbury. They continued in the enjoyment of this estate until the commencement of the last century, when the family having become extinct in the male line the estate was conveyed in marriage by Ann, daughter and heiress of Edward Hyde Esq., to George Clarke Esq. Lieutenant Governor of New York, in whose descendant, Edward Hyde Clarke Esq., it is now vested. A branch of

this same family is found seated in Haughton (as already stated) in the reign of Edward IV.; their landed interest in the township did not cease until the year 1821, in which year John Hyde of Ardwick Esq. disposed of his estate to Mr. John Lowe of Shepley Hall. It is now in the hands of Mr. Lowe's nephew, Mr. Edward Lowe Sidebotham.

The Shepley estate is in part situate in the township of Audenshaw and parish of Ashton-under-Lyne, and in part in the township of Haughton and parish of Manchester. Shepley Hall, the residence of Christopher de Vernon in 1422, was afterwards occupied by the family of Shepley. In the reign of Henry VI. the estate was conveyed in marriage by Jane, daughter and heiress of Peter de Shepley, to Geoffrey, third son of Sir Thomas de Assheton of Ashton-under-Lyne knt., and thus a branch of the Asshetons became seated at Shepley, which they retained till 1713, when Samuel Assheton gent. sold the property to Mr. John Shepley of Stockport, grocer. It is now vested in Edward Lowe Sidebotham Esq. as heir of the late Mr. John Lowe, a successful calico printer, its intermediate possessor.[1]

The families of Barlow of Barlow and Hulton of Hulton, to whom, under Denton, reference has been already made, also possessed in early times an interest in the township as small landed proprietors. Haughton never constituted the residence of either family, and their connexion with the township seems to have ceased towards the middle of the seventeenth century. In the 27 Elizabeth (1584), as appears from the Inquisition post mortem of Alexander Barlow of Barlow Hall, he died seised of lands in Haughton infra Wythington, which estate was found in the possession of his son (or grandson) and successor, Sir Alexander Barlow, at his death in 1620.

For purposes ecclesiastical Haughton has always been associated with Denton, one half the chapel (the south side) having been from time immemorial assigned to that township. Though, together, the two hamlets are sometimes called a chapelry, such designation is

[1] Baines's *Hist. of Lanc.* vol. ii. pp. 555–6.

erroneous. Denton chapel appears never to have been more than a chapel of ease to the parent church in Manchester, without assigned district, and possessing no jurisdiction over the adjacent hamlets. Of the two chapel-wardens annually elected to serve at Denton, Haughton claims the right of nominating one. In 1726 the warden for Haughton, having opposed himself to the then minister (the Rev. Joseph Dale) brought the office into discredit and even danger, Mr. Dale threatening not to receive any future nominee of the inhabitants, alleging, moreover, that in the year 1679, when his namesake (the Rev. Roger Dale) succeeded to the incumbency, the office of chapel-warden was altogether unknown, and that he was the first to institute it a few years later by appointing William Hardy for Denton and Edward Shaw for Haughton. In this emergency the inhabitants presented an address to Holland Egerton Esq. seeking his interference.

Honourable and Right Worshipful Sir,

The majority of the inhabitants of the hamlet of Haughton acquaint your worship with the following matter, and afterwards beg leave you would excuse us for making our humble request to you, viz: —

The bearer hereof, who hath been our chapel-warden for Haughton at Denton Chapel, if your worship pleases to suffer him, will acquaint you that for two or three years last past the repairs of Denton chapel have been exceeding great, which your worship is not a stranger unto because of your large sums you have paid for that end; and we being but equal to one half of Denton, yet pay as much as all Denton, the truth whereof will appear. The charge hath been very heavy, though with the same we have been easy, because some of it was necessary; but now the Rev. Mr. Dale puts on for false lofting, which as we apprehend (with submission to your worship) is unnecessary, the said chapel being in such order as no man living can remember it heretofore; and in order to carry on the design of having matters as the said Mr. Dale will, we are imposed upon, as we suppose, by being threatened that we shall not have our choice

of a chapel-warden. We have had it always a custom to have one for Haughton at Denton chapel upon every Easter Monday, but now expect opposition at the visitation, though the person we have chosen at Denton is sufficient for serving that or any other office. Therefore our request is that you would take our matter into consideration, and if your worship will please to speak to Mr. Roberts (we know as you say so it must be) that we may have our former rights, and not be imposed upon. And we desire the unnecessary charge may be prevented. We (together with the most of the inhabitants we would not name for being too troublesome) subscribe ourselves

April 28, 1726. Your worship's humble servants.

The result of the dispute is thus given in the pages of the chapel registers: —

Mem: May 15, 1726. There being a dispute betwixt the Rev. Mr. Dale minister of Denton and the inhabitants of Haughton about the right of nominating a warden for Haughton, and the Rev. Mr. Jackson having deposed upon oath before Mr. Chancellor that he for the space of eleven years, as minister of Denton, chose a warden constantly out of the township of Haughton, the worshipful the Chancellor offered Mr. Dale before the court that in case he would nominate any indifferent person to serve as warden for Haughton, he would swear him, and the said Mr. Dale having no such person then present, it was agreed that according to the direction of the canon in such cases, the worshipful the Chancellor should elect wardens, who accordingly elected the two persons above mentioned (Robert Leese for Denton and Joseph Torkenton for Haughton) who are to serve this present year as his wardens.

Like the other hamlets in the parish, Haughton was tributary to the parent church in Manchester. In 1701 the tithes of Denton and Haughton (they are returned together) were leased by the Warden and Fellows for £30 per annum. The name of the lessee is not given. In 1746 a lease of the same tithes was granted to Sir Thomas Grey Egerton and William Bromiley of Denton farmer, for seven years at £40 per annum. In 1848 the rent-charge of the

single township of Haughton, payable to the Dean and Chapter in lieu of tithes, amounted to £77.

In the year 1810 the Wesleyans erected a chapel in Haughton, having previously purchased a site in extent half an acre at an outlay of £130. The cost of its erection was £700. It is of brick, and will accommodate 126 persons. It is used also for the purposes of a Sunday school. In 1853 the number of scholars was, boys 74, girls 101, total 175. Connected with the Sunday school is a library of 125 volumes.

In March 1840 two cottages were rented in the township by the Primitive Methodists; these they converted into a "preaching room," to be used also as a Sunday and Day school. In 1853 the number of scholars in attendance at the Sunday school was, boys 65, girls 80, total 145. Day school, boys 40, girls 35, total 75. Here too is a library of 160 volumes.

In 1842 a room was rented at Haughton Green by the incumbent of the united township, which was duly licensed by the Bishop for divine service, and appropriated also as a Sunday school. It is of a size sufficiently large to accommodate a congregation of 250 or 300 persons. The number of scholars in attendance in 1853 was, boys 66, girls 81, total 147. There is no Day school.

Mr. James Walton of Haughton-dale Mills has recently expressed his intention of erecting schools in the township at his own cost, providing a master, and placing the room at the disposal of the incumbent of Denton for the celebration of divine service.

There are also two private schools in Haughton; the one for girls, with an average daily attendance of 25; and the other a mixed school, which numbers at present, boys 22, girls 10, total 32. These, together with an evening school availed of by 17 scholars chiefly men and boys, complete the educational statistics of the township. The school lately erected by Mr. Greswell and that contemplated by Mr. Walton will doubtless do much to extend education amongst the people.

The following table exhibits the present state of education in the township:

Day Scholars. Primitive Methodists 75; private or dames' schools 74; total 149.

Sunday Scholars. St. James' Episcopal chapel 147; Wesleyans 175; Primitive Methodists 145; total 467. Connected with these schools are two libraries containing 285 volumes.

Note on the Pedigree of Hyde.

From the record of Sir William Dugdale (*Visit.* 1664), as given on the two following pages, it is evident that the drawing of the crest engraved with the Pedigree at page 36 is erroneous. The helmet should have stood below the wreath, instead of being made to appear as a part of the crest, by being placed above it.

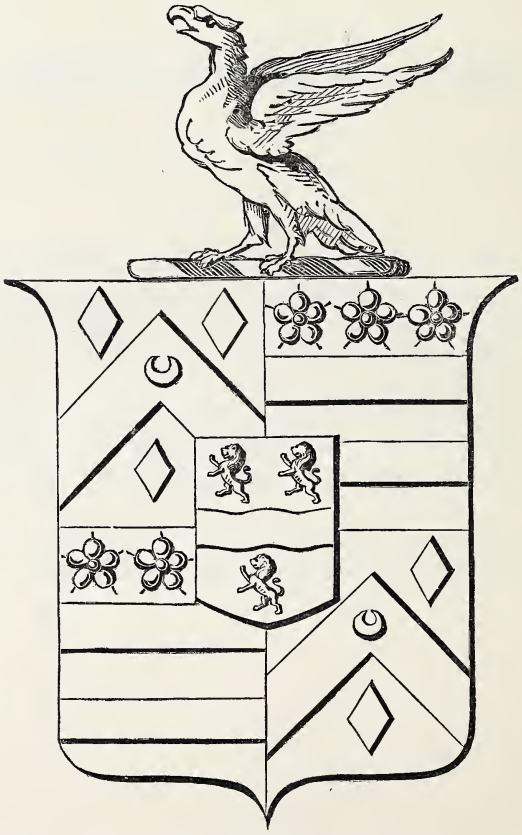
In the Visitation of 1567 the arms entered for Robert Hyde of Denton, who married Anne Arderne, are, argent 3 lozenges sable; crest, an eagle's head erased or, beaked sable. The arms do not appear in the Visitation of 1613.

The arms allowed in the second quarter by Sir William Dugdale are those of the family of Denton, in the county of Cumberland.

Hyde of Denton.

PEDIGREE FROM DUGDALE'S VISITATION OF LANCASHIRE, 1664.

For which the Editor is indebted to Sir Charles George Young, Garter-King-of-Arms.



Blazon: 1 *and* 4. *Azure a chevron between three lozenges or, with a crescent for difference.*

2 *and* 3. *Argent two bars gules, in chief, three cinqfoils sable.*

Escocheon of pretence, gules a fesse wavy, between three lions rampant or.

Crest, an eagle rising sable.

Salford Hundred.

Manchester, 11 *Mar.* 1664.

ARMS.

As engraved on the opposite page.

1 Hyde } Escocheon of Pre-
2 Denton } tence — Crompton.

Mathæus de Hyda =

D'ns Robertus de Hyda, = d'ns de Norbury in com. Cestr.

Ricardus. Alanus. D'ns Robertus de Hida = Margeria, filia Roberti
5 H. III. de Stockport.

Ric'us. Johannes de Hide, 13 E. II. a quo familia Hidorum de Norbury in com. Cestr. Alexander de Hide = Emma, A° 44 H. III.

Johannes de Hide = Elena,
2 E. I., 11 E. I., 5 et 7 et 42 Edw. III. 7 E. III.

Hugo, A° 19 E. III. Ricardus de Hide = Matilda, filia Rogeri Vernon de
de Denton 5 E. III. et 42 Edw. III. Warford in com. Cestr. 5 E. III.

Ricardus de Hyde =
4 E. III. 39 Ric. II.

Johannes de Hyde =
19 Ric. II.

Nicholaus de Hyde = Isabella,
35 H. VI.

Radulphus de Hyde = Margareta, filia Roberti
27 H. VI. 11 E. IV. de Dokenfield.

Nicholaus de Hyde = Margareta, filia Thurstani
35 H. VI. 18 E. IV. Holland Arm. 36 H. VI.

Radulphus Hide = Agnes, filia ..... Arderne de Hawarden in com. Cestr. 7 E. IV.
7 E. IV. obijt sine prole.

Willielmus Hyde = Elena, filia Ricardi
18 E. IV. 2 H VIII. Mostan 36 H. VI.

Nicholaus Hide = Margareta, filia Edmundi Chetham,
2 H. VIII. obijt A° 1532; secundo nupta Thomæ Browne.

Willielmus Hide = Catherina, filia Alexandri Elcock
15 H. VIII. de Stockport gen. A° 15 H. VIII.

4 Margarita, uxor Roberti Booth de Harrop Edge in Matley.

3 Catherina, uxor Rogeri Stopward.

2 Isabella, uxor Ricardi Asshton de Shepley.

1 Margareta, uxor Rogeri Kendall.

3 Robertus Hyde = Anna, filia Johannis Arderne Armigeri.
3 et 9 Eliz.

1 Willielmus } obiere
2 Ricardus } sine prole.

Nicholaus.

5 Paulus. 4 Petrus. 3 Nicholaus. 2 Edwardus.

Willielmus Hyde = Eleanora, filia Johannis Molineux de Nova Aulà in West Derby in com. Lanc. 40 Eliz.
obijt 30 Sept. 15 Car. I.

Susanna, primo nupta Alexandro Newton; secundo Thomæ Swettenham gen.

Maria } ob. s. prole.
Margareta }

Robertus Hide de Denton = Alicia, filia tertia et cohæres
Arm. ætatis 62 annor' 11 Martij A° 1664. Thomæ Crompton de Crompton in com. Lanc.

Debora, uxor Johannis Wadsworth de Swathe in com. Ebor.

Catherina, primo nupta Will'o Meete de Salford in com. Lanc.; secundo Radulpho Arderne filio tertio genito Radulphi Arderne de Hawarden in com. Cestr.

Anna, uxor Will'i Bell Rectoris Ecclesiæ de Heyton in com. Lanc.

Robertus Hide = Maria, filia Johannis Jackson,
ætatis 36 annorum 11 Martij 1664. de Rubnell in com. Derb.

Willielmus Hide.

Anna, ætatis unius anni 11 Martij A° d'ni 1664.

(Certified by Robert Hyde, Esq.)

Note on the Family of Holland.

There has existed no family in Lancashire whose career has been so remarkable as that of the Hollands. Playing an active part in the most picturesque and chivalrous period of English history, they figured among the founders of the Order of the Garter, allied themselves repeatedly with the royal family, and attained the highest rank in the peerage. How great the vicissitude of their fortunes appears by what is related in the History of Philip de Comines, who tells of Henry Duke of Exeter, doubly descended from the Plantagenets, and married to the sister of King Edward IV., that he saw him run on foot bare-legged after the Duke of Burgundy's train, begging his bread for God's sake.

Acknowledged to spring from the same stock, the descent of the Hollands of Denton is involved in some difficulty, owing to the conflicting testimony of genealogists.

With a view of settling this pedigree upon a basis of documentary evidence, and of correcting certain errors in the history of the senior line, which have obtained currency by frequent repetition, it is proposed to give, in a future volume of the Chetham Miscellanies, a paper on this subject. Meanwhile it should be noted, as an erratum, that the insertion of the marriage with the heiress of Kenyon in the pedigree at p. 24 is misplaced.

In the *Second Visitation of Lancashire* a note (evidently intended to account for the arms of Kenyon being quartered by the Hollands of Denton) gives the date of this alliance, which took place about two hundred years earlier than the time at which it has been inserted in the pedigree.

W. L.

ERRATA.

Page 27, line 13, *for* His soul, *read* his soul.

Page 88, line 29, *for* Rev. Richard Heyrick, Warden of Manchester, *read*, Mr. Richard Heyrick, a son or other relative of the late Warden of Manchester.

Page 97, line 30, *for* as, *read* at.

Page 112, line 24, *for* Palman, *read* Palmam.

A LETTER

FROM

JOHN BRADSHAWE

OF GRAY'S INN

TO

SIR PETER LEGH

OF LYME.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.
M.DCCC.LV.

INTRODUCTION.

The following Letter was found among the muniments at Lyme. It is written on one page of a sheet of foolscap paper in a small neat hand, of which the signature is a fair example. The letter, interesting in itself as an illustration of the times, becomes the more so when we consider the great probability of its being the youthful production of a man, whose character and career were alike remarkable.

If it be objected that the subscription of the letter, given here in facsimile, bears no close resemblance to the firm and free writing of the same name affixed to the death warrant of King Charles, it may fairly on the other hand be urged, that the signature acquired by most men in official routine differs materially from the familiar writing of their youth, and possesses a character and boldness beyond that of their ordinary text. Another element of doubt must also be mentioned. There were two John Bradshawes contemporaries at Gray's Inn, the one admitted a student in 1620, the other in 1622; and, the original archives of that house having perished, it is not possible to determine with absolute certainty which of these was the future President of the High Court of Justice, or which was the writer of this letter.

Though it does not bear a complete date, the letter contains internal evidence of having been penned on the 13th of June, 1623. The style is not unlike that of the President, while the orthography is also similar in character to his; but the circumstance, which yields the strongest presumption of its having been an early production of the stern old republican, lies in the appeal made to Sir Peter Legh, as the influential neighbour of the writer's father.

John Bradshawe "the Regicide" was the third son of Henry Bradshawe of Marple Hall, an estate lying in close proximity to that of the great family of Legh at Lyme. Born in 1602, and baptised at Stockport on the 18th December of the same year, he must have been nearly twenty-one years of age when this letter was written. It is stated by his biographers that he had served a clerkship in the office of an attorney at Congleton, before he entered himself as a student for the bar at Gray's Inn.

Milton, his friend, says of him: Est Joannes Bradscianus nobili familia, ut satis notum est, ortus; unde patriis legibus addiscendis, primam omnem ætatem sedulò impendit; dein consultissimus causarum ac disertissimus patronus, libertatis et populi vindex acerrimus, et magnis reipublicæ negotiis est adhibitus, et incorrupti judicis munere aliquoties perfunctus; tandem uti regis judicio præsidere vellet, à senatu rogatus, provinciam sane periculosissimam non recusavit. Attulerat enim ad legum scientiam ingenium liberale, animum excelsum, mores integros ac nemini obnoxios; . . . .

He appears to have been first employed by the Government in 1644; and, once embarked in public life, the history of his career continues interwoven with the annals of his country. After his decease in 1659, his remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey; and at the restoration of King Charles the Second they were removed to Tyburn and gibbeted.

Viewed through the disturbing medium of political strife, no one has been characterized by more widely contrasting epithets than John Bradshawe; but men of all parties must be struck with his extraordinary firmness, his singleness of purpose, and his courage. He never faltered while sitting in judgment on the King, nor ever repented of that deed: and, when in the arbitrary exercise of power Cromwell had dissolved the Parliament and dismissed the Council of State, he met the Usurper with stern rebuke and defiance.

W. L.

LETTER FROM JOHN BRADSHAWE.

Worthy S^{ur}

I receyved yo^{r} Answer to my last lr̃e by yo^{r} servant Birchenhalgh, ffor which I humblie thanke you, assuring my self thereby of yo^{r} continued ffavor in theise my troublesome stormes, towards me so meane & unworthy of the least exp^{r}ssion of yo^{r} Love. But for all this yo^{r} goodnes, I shall p̃myse you this payment, to wryte it wth a pen of brasse in the tables of my heart, w^{ch} can as yet resound onelie prayse and thanksgyving. Concerning my lr̃e to my ffather I will onelie say thus much, It had too much Reason on my syde, for so impartiall a Justice as he knew yo^{r} self was to see & arbitrate my cause, ffor the ballance of neutralitie wherein he supposed he held you, would questionles on his part be y^{r}by ov^{r}-turned. But let him do what he please, he shall soon^{r} be wearie of aflicting, then I will be of suffering, & by the grace of God I will shew my self a Sonne, though he cease to be my ffather. But to end this unpleasing argum^{t}, I will onelie in conclusion p̃pound this one Dilemma unto yo^{r} noble Construction — What ffruit that ffath^{r} may expect to come of his sonnes studyes, that wittinglie doth suppresse the instrument of his labors, & willinglie keepe in ffetters the freedome of his mynd, w^{ch} is that chosen toole appoynted for the fynishing of all such high attemptes, & whether the worke, imperfect by reason of such Restraynt, be layd to his charge that assumed it, or to him that was the Impediment, and yet was bound to have

helped the Accomplishing of the Enterpryse. I know S^r^ you understand & by this short question, you may gesse what may furth^r^ be urged, but I leave all to yo^r^ judgm^t^ and reposing my self on yo^r^ worth, I feare no disastrous censure.

ffor neglecting the Exercyses of the howse, it is a fryvolous objection, Himself hath been satysfyed in it and Mr. Damport will justify me, knowing I never neglected but one Exercyse of myne owne, w^ch^ was to argue a case, w^ch^ according unto course another should have done for me at my first coming to the howse, & I by ffeeing the Butler did of purpose neglect it, onelie deferring the tyme, that after I had been heere a whyle, I might pleade the case for myself; w^ch^ is so far from a fault, that contrarywyse the best students have ever taken this course, & is & hath been com̃ended of those that understand it, & hereof I very well know my ffath^r^ can not be ignorant, having been acquaynted therew^th^. But it seemeth, how prone he is, to take exceptions agaynst me, when fynding nothing blameworthy, he returnes that for a fault, w^ch^ deserveth allowance and prayse. Concerning Mr. Damport, he is a worthy Gentleman, his Love to me doth cause me to respect him & his worth, in honestie to regard him. But I thanke you for yo^r^ noble advyse, & should esteeme my self base not to pursue and follow it, still wayting a good howre, when God shall be pleased to enable me to gyve lyfe unto my words by deeds equyvalent thereto. In the meane tyme, the trybute of a thankfull heart I pay you.

Ffor o^r^ domestique newes, I have sent you the Cause of my Lo: of Oxford w^ch^ is to be heard this Terme. The plot it is thought hath been to terryfie him so from his Offyce, as to yeld his place of High Chamberleyn of England to the high swolne ffavoryte and his famylie, w^ch^ his great heart will never yeld to; & therefore to make him, if not depending, beholding to his greatest Enemie, it is lykelie, for his words he shall be shrewdlie censured, & so remayne in Durance, till Buckingham returne from Spayne and gratify him w^th^ his libertie & a release of his ffyne & so asswage his stomacke by this his plotted good turne. As it succeeds, I will certyfie you. The Ships are yet on the Downes, having been crossed & kept

backt by contrary wynds from their voyage. We heare no newes from Spayne, nor have not heard, this month, onlie as it is suspected, the Princes Entertaynm^{t} continues not so gloryous as it hath been. It is hitherto a true observation, that England hath been ffatall to Dukes, but above all most omynous unto the Dukes of Buckingham, of w^{ch} the Marquesse hath the tytle, & lykewyse Earle of Coventrie, & the Duke of Lenox is created Duke of Richmond & Earle of Newcastle upon Tyne, & more Dukes & Earles are expected to hono^{r} this liberall Age. Kit Villers is made Earle of Anglesey in recompense of Barkshyres escape, & to increase the kindred, hath marryed wth Shelton, his moth^{rs} sisters daughter; but we are so used to wonders, that this is none at all. Lenox Arundell Pembroake & some other Nobles, who are styled the Lords of the Receptions, have been at Southampton & Portsmouth to p^{r}pare royall lodgings & entertaynm^{t}, for the Prince & his Bryde of Spayne, whensoever they arryve.

Ffor o^{r} forreyn newes I have sent you all we have had any tyme this month, amongst w^{ch} I have sent you the parliam^{t} of Regenspurgh, holden by the Emperor and his Princes, wherein you may see what is done for the disposing of the Electorship of the forlorne Palatyne, a discourse not unworthy yo^{r} knowledge, who I am sure are as zealous for the good of the countrey & ffriends as those that beare greater sway & have better power of performance, be they but subjects of England. To conclude all my relatyons I will tell you of one mad prancke that happened wthin theise two nights. S^{r} Thomas Bartley was arrested hard by Grayes Inne for 4000^{ls} debt, & was carryed to the higher end of Holborne, and coñitted under custody: About 12 of the clocke at night some Gentlemen of o^{r} howse and of Lincolnes Inne, met togeth^{r} for his Rescue, broke downe the howse, tooke him away wth them, beat the Constables Serjeants & Watchmen, & though S^{t} Gyles was raysed & almost all Holborne, yet they with their swords & pistolls kept them of, & brought him along to Grayes Inne: there were dyvers hurt wth Halberds, & about 200 swords drawne, & at least 2000 people. There are 5 or 6 Gent. taken & sent to Newgate, & wee heare

that the Names of above 60 Gent: are gyven up to the King; what will be done about it, we shall know in tyme. There are more murthers drownings deaths & villaynies, then hath been knowne in London of long tyme before. I had almost forgot the Moderator a booke uncerteyn whethr wrytten by a papist or a statesman (for indeed they are now so linked, as scarce can admit distinguishmt) for prparing a way to reconciliation, between the Papists and us; howsoevr by whomsoevr, or to what end soevr it is penned, it is a treatise I am sure, excellently curyous and cautelous and may stand or syde in much stedd when they please to make use of it.

I will now drawe to an end, intreating yor wop not to miscensure my forwardnes in takyng notyce of theise things, for it agrees wth my genius to have some smattering herein, neyther do they any whyt hinder, but further my studyes and judgmt.

And so wth most humble thanks for all yor wops favors, I remayne yor debtor for them, beseeching God Almightie to prserve and ꝑsper you for the good of many, & my most specyll comfort

ever resting

yor wops to dispose

Jo: Bradshawe

Grayes Inne the
First day of the
Terme.

To the Right Worpll Sr Peter
Legh Knight att Lyme in
Cheshyre.

The fac-simile of a deed of Richard Bussel to the Church of Evesham here inserted was intended as an illustration to vol. xxx. (*Documents Relating to Penwortham Priory*, edited by W. A. Hulton, Esq.) and was accidentally omitted.

Hoc[ue]rint p[re]sentes & posteri q[uo]d ego Ricard[us] Busel cōcedo & scripto hoc sigillo meo confirmo eccl[es]ie de
Cuesham & omn[ib]us donac[i]o[n]ib[us] & tota elemosina qua tenet p[at]er meus Wlwarinus & p[re]dicte eccl[es]ie
in p[er]petuā elemosinā p[ro] salute mea & hered[um] meor[um] & p[ro] dia patris mei & antecessor
meor[um]. his testib[us]. Willmo p[re]sbit[er]o de prestuna. Ludulfo & crostuna. Cafwardo
p[re]sb[ite]ro & Langetuna. Gaufrido. Osberno. Radullo. capellanis. Rodb[er]to dia cono.
Osb[er]no filio Eadmundi. Orm filio Gagni. Warino filio ei[us]. Sueno child. Witto
filio Alani. Ulfredo. filio Sueno. Arturo & Alstano. Suem & penulfa. & ada tr[e]s.
& Sibilla. & matilde sororib[us] eius. & multis alijs

Nouerint ꝓsentes & posteri qd ego Ricard Busel cōcedo & scripto dno sigillo meo confirmo eccl̄ie de
Cuelham oēm donacōem & tōtā elemosinā quā Beccus ꝑ meus Hwarinus ꝓdicte eccl̄e
ꝓtinentiꝰ suis. & i longecurna duas bouatas terre & de ecclā de Cerlandia xl̄ta solidos
& duas ꝑtes decime de dominio. & de capella de Ogeles duos solidos. & duas ꝑtes decime
de duo de Brechecurna & Warcuna. Pisatione unā ꝑtis liberam & quietam & tōtā
decimā cōredy domus sue. & qd alias habeat capra sua i ꝓtibus hagis i oīb⁹ ꝛa
liberam sicut ꝑ mꝰ Warinꝰ habuit suam. ut ego mea. Hec sūt donationes qꝰ
ego ꝑdca donau. nudeby eccl̄iam de Cerlunda cū oīnib⁹ ꝓtinentiis suis. de
tota pisatione mea. mille. piscium duorū ꝑcū & quarū ꝓsc̄ in longecurna
quator bouatas ꝛra. & peuerbā unā bouatā capellā de Ogeles cū oīnib⁹ ꝓtinentiis
suis. Has ꝓdictas donationes qꝰ ꝑ mꝰ Warinꝰ ꝓdicte eccl̄e de Cuelha grauit & qꝰ
ego ꝑdca grauo ego Ricard Busel gcedo & ꝓsenti scripto atq; sigillo confirmo. ut eccl̄a
de Cuelha possideat & pacifice teneat liberas & quietas & db oīm secular exactione
solutas. in pratis & pascuis & aquis & stagnis & sablonib⁹ & piscariis & bosco.
& plano & pannagio & in oīnib⁹ libertatib⁹ & liberis consuetudinib⁹ & puram &
ꝑpetuā elemosinā ꝓ salute mea & heredū meorū & ꝓ dca ꝑis mei & antecessoꝝ
meoꝝ. Hūs testib⁹. Wiltmo ꝓsbitero de Prestuna. Radulfo & Crostuna. Eadwardo
ꝓsbitero & Langecurna. Gaufrido. Osberno. Radullo. capellanis. Rodberto diacono.
Osbno filio Eadmundi. Orm filio Osgodi. Warino filio ei⁹. Sueno child. Wilto
filio Alani. Ybredcab. filio Sueno. Arcuro & Osbarna. Sueno & penulta. & Gada fratre.
& Sibilla. & Gaudie sororib⁹ eius. & multis alis